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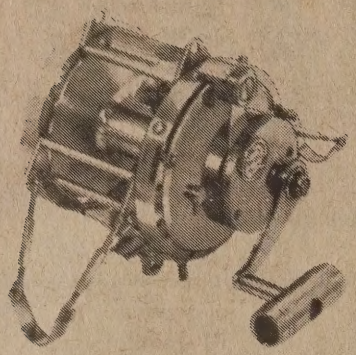

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CLUB NEWS

MERRICK ROD & GUN CLUB

On the evening of August 25, the Merrick Rod and Gun Club held its annual bluefishing trip. Captain Ed Carlson's Norseman out of Freeport was chartered and over 100 fish were caught by 14 members and guests. Club member Kevin Meehan of Bethpage, was high hook with 11 fish and caught the pool winner—a 17 lb. 7 oz. blue.

SURF & SEA ANGLERS CLUB REPORT

Four boats and crews from the Club entered the Great Gun Shark Tourney on Saturday. Tom McCarthy's boat White Bear and crew John Gallo and Ed Hansen fought endlessly with a large mako shark, w which would have been in the money, only to lose the shark when they got him alongside the boat. Tom McCarthy returned back to the waters with his Grady White on ' onday and came back with great success. By landing a large size 125 lb. white shark and tagging a large number of other sharks. Other boats which entered the tournament were Tom Montalbano's Sea Turtle, which returned with a blue shark. John Perz and Dan Norhits Enterprize II, and Frank Dinera's boat Butterfly all had members of the Club as crew members.

CHUM LINES

ARE THERE FISHING CONTESTS?

Please let me know where my 14-yr.-old son can enter any fishing contests.

Also let us know where we can fish locally in a lake.

Where can a 14-yr.-old go on a charterboat without an adult? *J. Welk, Maspeth, NY.*

Of course, the biggest saltwater fishing contest of them all is no more. The Schaefer Saltwater Fishing contest involved a lot of fishermen and a lot of interest in fishing was generated by that contest. We were sorry to see it go.

Most clubs provide internal competition for members, but that won't help your son unless you join a club which will make him eligible for the Junior Division.

The larger clubs run various contests, but again, most are designed for those with big boats and expensive equipment to chase sharks, tuna, and marlin. However, these clubs also run flounder, weakfish, and snapper derbies for kids. Look for announcements in The Long Island Fisherman. Finally, your son could enter the L.I.F. World Series of Fishing. Check the magazine for details. Dr. W. A. Muller

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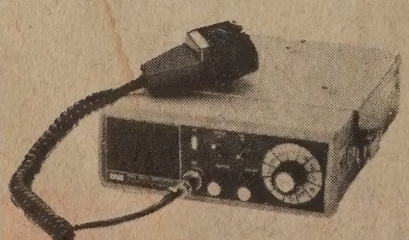

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The Long Island FISHERMAN

The Difference Between Just Fishing and Catching Fish!

Volume 14, Number 37 **September 13th, 1979**

Features:

NATIONAL SCENE ..... Al Ristori 10
FISHERMAN TIPS ..... Fred Guardineer 11
Fish Talk:
HAVE YOU TRIED THIS? ..... Dr. William A. Muller ... 12
SurfSide:
FALL RUN ..... John Fritz 14
Sinker Bouncing:
NO FISH? ..... Matt Ahern 16
CATCH YOUR OWN BAIT—PT. II ..... Herb Buch 18
THANK GOD FOR SNAPPERS ..... Dick Mermon 20
SEPTEMBER'S SPEEDSTERS—PT. II . Sal Terranova 22
PINS & PLASTIC ..... H. C. Siddall, Jr. 25
SPARE PARTS ..... Dan & Ginny McKain ... 26

Departments:

New Products 2
Club News 2
Chum Lines 2
Editorial 4
Pass It On 6
Boating 8
Contests & Tourneys 8
Inflation Fighter 15
Fishing Reports 26
Classified 48
Tide Tables 51
Solunar Tables 51

COMING NEXT WEEK:
AUTUMN BLUEFISH

About the Cover—

Using a lift net is an excellent method of catching small baitfish to use for bait—and save money! See the conclusion of the article *Catching Your Own Bait* on page 18.

Richard Reina PUBLISHER
Scott Simons MANAGING EDITOR
Dr. Wm. A. Muller EDITOR
Al Ristori CONSERVATION EDITOR
Stu Miller ADVERTISING MANAGER
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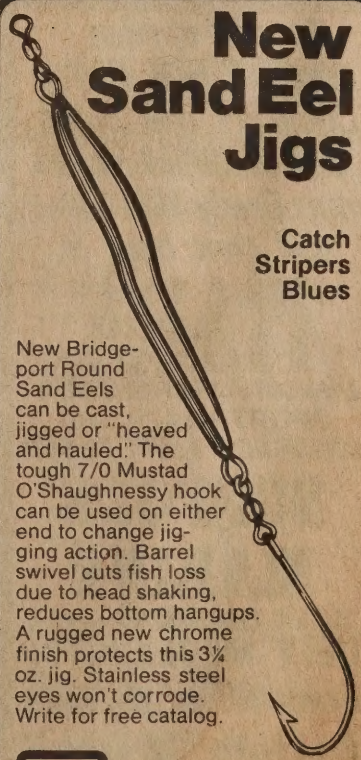

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The Fighting Chair

with Scott Simons

ORDER MAY BE GIVEN TO STOP TRAP FROM FISHING WEEKENDS

Reprinted below in its entirety is the letter sent by L.I.F. to Parks & Recreation Commissioner Orin Lehman concerning the results of our meeting with him in Albany on August 29. As we went to press, the proposal was a topic on the agenda for a meeting between the Commissioner and John Sheridan in Albany on September 6. The action that is taken on the proposal at that meeting will be reported next week.

Dear Commissioner Lehman:

I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank you for giving Mr. Reina and I the opportunity to meet with you on August 29, 1979, despite your demanding schedule, to discuss several matters of grave concern to recreational fishermen who fish in New York State parks. Both Mr. Reina and I left the meeting with the satisfied feeling that much had been accomplished in our discussions with yourself, Mr. Sheridan and Mr. Caccese; foremost of which is we now believe that you have a much better understanding of what the problems of recreational fishermen are and appear anxious to do all in your power to help alleviate them.

In regards to the problem we discussed at length of the commercial fish trap that has been constructed in Montauk Point State Park, we have several additional comments. While we agree that it is unrealistic to expect the removal of the trap this year due to the time elements involved, we do believe that a practical compromise can be reached. Your suggestion that it may be possible to prohibit the trap from operating during the weekend hours when the North Bar is most heavily fished by recreational fishermen, seems to be such a compromise which we believe is fair and equitable to all concerned parties and will greatly diminish the possibility of further social conflict between the operator of the fish trap and recreational fishermen. Therefore, we respectfully make the following recommendation as an interim solution:

> **That the netting for the inner pounds, funnel, box and the 500-foot leader net of the fish trap be raised and kept in the "drying" position between the hours of 5PM Friday and 8AM Sunday (40 hours) so that the trap will be inoperable during this period. To be effective immediately and remain in effect for the remainder of 1979.**

This recommendation will allow the individual to fish the trap for six full days and five full nights. But the fishing time actually lost should be considerably less than forty hours. The twine of the netting, especially the leader, becomes thick with slip gut and kelp over a short period of time, which eventually cuts down on the effectiveness of a fish trap. It is our understanding that to overcome this problem, it is common practice among commercial trap fishermen to periodically lift the traps' nets and place them on top of the stakes to allow the twine time to dry out. If the owner of the fish trap in Clark's Cove were to schedule this drying period during the weekend, the actual fishing time lost can be reduced considerably.

Once again, we must impress upon you, Mr. Commissioner, that any action taken in this matter must be taken immediately, as the start of the fall recreational fishing season is already upon us. This area will be very heavily fished by surfcasters for the next ten to twelve weeks, which we believe can only lead to increased social conflict. As we have already witnessed one such social incident in August, we're sure you'll agree that everything possible must be done to avoid similar incidents in the future.

We expect to have ready this week the presentation that will conclusively prove that the fish trap in Montauk Point State Park directly interferes

with recreational fishing in the immediate area and will deliver it to John Sheridan at his offices on Long Island. We are also in the process of preparing a report on the amount of beach access that has been lost by recreational fishermen in the last decade which will illustrate why the State Parks are becoming increasingly more important to us. However, the extensive research required for this comprehensive report will mean that it will not be completed until the end of September.

In order to avoid any misunderstandings in the future, we respectfully request that you confirm, in writing, the subjects on which we arrived at an agreement in principle. This is primarily for our own reassurance that we correctly understood your positions on the various topics discussed—we don't want to make the mistake of misquoting you, or saying publically that you had agreed to something which you feel you haven't. Following is a list of topics discussed, and the agreements that were reached to our understanding:

One. That beginning next year, all fish traps on State Park property will be required to have a permit from the Parks & Recreation Commission.

Two. That there will be some type of fee for this permit, which is unknown at this time.

Three. That no fish traps will be permitted in areas that are fished by recreational fishermen.

Four. That when a permit is issued for a trap in an area that is not fished recreationally at the present time, that the act of granting a permit will not set a precedent that would prevent the denial of a permit at some future date if the area develops into one used by recreational fishermen.

Five. That it is the position of the Parks & Recreation Commission that the primary function of New York State Parks is one of recreation, and any commercial fishing activity that directly interferes with recreational fishing will be prohibited. (For example: fish traps, haul seining and gillnetting within 1,000' of the high water mark.)

Six. That the State Parks & Recreation Commission will do everything in its power to increase the number of boat launching ramp facilities with access to saltwater.

Seven. That, when feasible, the Parks & Recreation Commission will open Orient Point State Park to night fishing for recreational anglers.

Eight. That you will investigate the possibility of opening more parking fields at night for recreational fishermen at Jones Beach State Park and Robert Moses State Park.

Nine. That you will consider our recommendation that a Sportfishing Advisory Council be formed for the purpose of advising the Commissioner on matters related to recreational fishing in New York State Parks.

If we have misunderstood any of these points, please amend them and return a copy to us at your earliest convenience. Thank you.

Sincerely Yours,
Scott J. Simons
Managing Editor

ABOUT THAT LATE DELIVERY...

The Long Island Fisherman is presently in the process of installing a new Goss web offset printing press so that we will be able to do all of our printing "in house," giving us the capability of greatly improving the quality of our publication. But the company that has been printing L.I.F. for the past several years appears to be in the process of going out of business, and we were recently forced to begin using another printer during this interim period until our own plant is in operation in a few weeks. Unfortunately, due to the new printer's production schedule, this has meant that L.I.F. is being mailed out one day later than normal.

Except on very rare occasions, L.I.F. is mailed out second class from our offices in Sag Harbor on Tuesday, and most of our subscribers receive their copy at home on Wednesday or Thursday. Logic would dictate that if we mail a day late, it will be received a day late. But when dealing with the United States Postal Service, we are confronted with another Federal bureaucracy that seems to be under Congressional mandate to operate in, the most illogical manner possible at all times. So we mail out a day late, and the U.S.P.S. does a Gene Kelly on our face and we start getting letters and calls from many of our readers complaining that they are receiving their copy of The Fisherman two, three, and even four days later than normal! Obviously, trying to change the Post Office's ways is, at

(Continued on page 29.)

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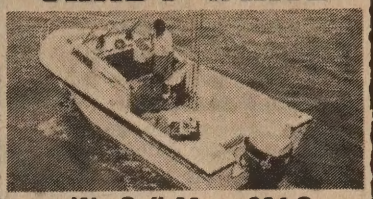

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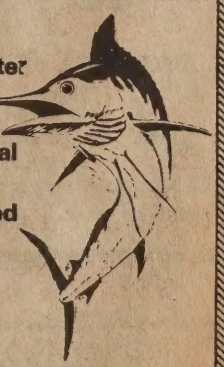

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Pass It On...

CLEAN SAND FOR TEXAS

Frustrated by not being able to do anything about the Gulf of Mexico oil spill, a group of Long Islanders—the Marine Environmental Council of Long Island, have gotten together to start a "Clean Sand for Texas" campaign. Donations sent to MECLI, "Clean Sand for Texas," P.O. Box 55, Seaford, N.Y. 11783, will be sent to environmental organizations in Texas to aid in their cleanup efforts.

MECLI officers Tom Zawyrucha and Sue Licardi, collect clean sand at Captree State Park for sending to Texas as a token gesture.

In an attempt to emphasize the situation, the group is mailing a token box of clean Long Island sand to Texas. M.E.C.I.I. advises Long Islanders to take heed of this warning of the hazards involved in offshore drilling. The clean Long Island sand beaches that we enjoyed this summer can readily be turned to muck by runaway offshore oil rigs. The Gulf of Mexico Ixtoc I oil drilling rig has been spilling 30,000 barrels of crude oil a day into the Gulf of Mexico since June 3 and is not expected to be capped until September.

GRIFFITH ELECTRONICS CONSULTATION SERVICE AT NORWALK IN-WATER SHOW

The Griffith Marine Electronics Consultation Center at the NAEBM International In-Water Boat Show, Cove Marina, Norwalk, Ct., Sept. 19-23, will provide individualized expert professional guidance in the selection and operation of all manner and make of modern marine electronic gear for owners of power cruisers and runabouts, sport fishermen and cruising and racing sailboats under the aegis of Griffith Marine Navigation, Inc., of New Rochelle, NY.

The 300 sq. ft. consultation center in Tent C at the show will be staffed by electronics experts from Griffith

and many leading U.S. and foreign manufacturers. They will analyze individual boat owners' requirements, make recommendations for complete electronic systems or single pieces of gear, and answer questions on the capability and proper operation and care of equipment tailored to the individual's boat.

"There is such a wide variety of electronics already in use and so much new-generation gear constantly coming on the market that it is difficult for boatowners to keep up with what is necessary and right for their own particular boating needs and to fully understand the many things that different pieces of gear can contribute to their boating enjoyment," said Jim Chapman, Griffith President.

"It is evident that, rather than simply exhibit product, the most useful service we can offer show visitors is information and education on what best suits their own needs," he added.

In a radical departure from its exhibits at past shows, Griffith will display no equipment at all from any of the more than 50 manufacturers the firm represents. Instead, it will provide one-on-one information and literature in an effort to solve individuals' specific problems.

The professional guidance service will cover depth sounders and recorders, radar, Loran C, VHF and SSB radios, weather satellites, EPIRBs, Omni, autopilots, gyro compasses, control and prevention of electrical 'surges" on boats, security and alarm systems, and much more.

Established more than 15 years ago, Griffith is a major marine electronics sales and service center for recreational, commercial and ocean-going cargo vessels throughout the greater New York area. It has a large staff of 23 experts in all aspects of sea-going navigation and communications equipment, including 11 technicians for installation, maintenance and repair. The company belongs to the National Marine Electronics Association.

Earlier this year, Griffith initiated a continuing program of education in marine electronics, conducting free public seminars which have been attended by hundreds of boating men and women.

"The more knowledgeable boat owners and their crew members can be on electronic gear, the safer and more enjoyable will be their total boating experience," Chapman said, "and that is why we are stressing educational activities at the boat show and throughout the year."

MONTHLY RECYCLE DRIVE

The monthly recycle drive of the Friends of Long Island will be held Saturday, September 15, from 10AM to 4PM at the Pathmark parking field on Merrick Road in Seaford. Look for the Ecology Flag. Materials collected are: newsapers and magazines (tied or untied), aluminum and car batteries.

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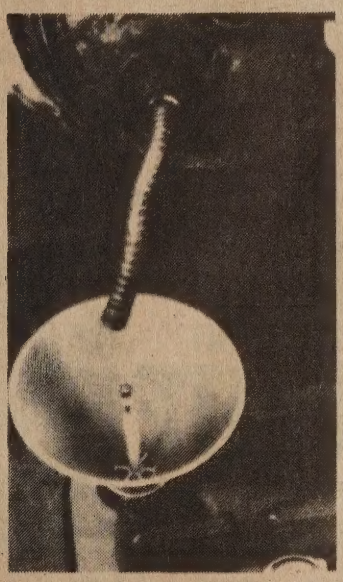

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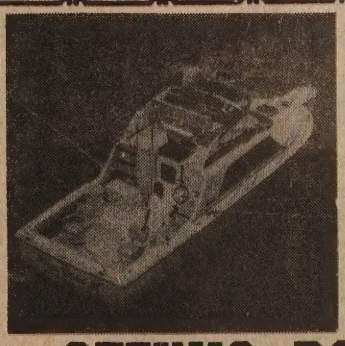

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NEW SISU BOATS TO BE UNVAILED AT BOAT SHOW

Ken Turco, the Long Island rep for **Sisu Boats** said that L.I.F. readers that wish to see the boats in the Sisu line of "pocket seaboats" will have the opportunity at the Norwalk Boat Show in Connecticut, being held at the Norwalk Cove Marina from September 20th to the 23rd. With more than 400 boats on display in the water and on land, the unveiling of the new **Sisu 26** is expected to steal the show. A Sisu 22 inboard like the one used by the staff of **The Long Island Fisherman** will also be on display for economy minded fishermen that are tired of burning up a lot of fuel and want a good sea boat under them for rough water fishing. If you can't make it to the show and would like to arrange a demo locally, give Ken a call at 516-728-8566.

BOATING

JOHNSON & TOWERS OFFERS FREE DIESEL CLASSES TO BOAT OWNERS, DEALERS

Four one-day classes a year—the next one scheduled for Sept. 26—in familiarization and maintenance of marine diesel engines free of charge for owners of boats powered by Johnson & Towers diesels, marine dealers, and members of the boating press are offered at the Mt. Laurel, NJ, headquarters of Johnston & Towers, Inc., specialists in marine power since 1926.

Presented in non-technical language with visual aids and providing an opportunity for "hands-on" experimentation, the course includes: the theory of diesel operation; basic construction of diesel engines; proper operational methods; safety features; preventative maintenance of cooling, fuel, lubrication and air systems, and emergency trouble shooting.

Held 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., the one-day sessions include a complete tour of the J&T plant. Wilbur W. Smith, J&T Training Administrator and a graduate of General Motors Technical Institute in mechanical engineering, is the instructor. Before joining J&T, Smith taught diesel engineering at the State University of New York (SUNY) at Alfred.

For complete information and reservations for these free classes, contact: Al Harris, VP-Marketing, Johnson & Towers, Inc., P.O. Box 38, Moorestown, NJ 08057 (tel: 609-234-6990).

12 LESSON BOATING COURSE

Flotilla 19-4 of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary will conduct a 12-lesson Boating Skills and Seamanship Course on the basic rules of the road, charting, weather and boat handling, at the Stony Brook Yacht Club in Stony Brook, N.Y.

Registration and instruction will begin Monday, September 10, 1979 at 8PM and each Monday thereafter. Late arrivals will be accepted on September 17.

There will be a nominal cost for class materials. Boat owners and future boat owners and their families 16 and over, are welcome. Certificates will be given to those who successfully complete this course. For further information, contact the Public Relations Officer at 751-7452.

Contests & Tournaments

GREAT GUN ANGLERS SHARK TOURNAMENT

Bill from East Moriches Bait and Tackle reported the results of the Great Gun Anglers Shark Tournament which was held last weekend.

First place - 282 lb. blue shark, Captain Henry Walker on his boat Osege; 2nd place, 138 lb. brown shark, Adam Kibel on Capt. H. Kibel's boat Tiger Lili; 3rd place, 110 tiger shark, Captain Bill Shafrick on the Islander; 4th place—a tie: 98 lb. mako by Captain John DePasquale on his boat Lady Jane, and a 98 lb. mako by Captain Pete MiGlionico on the Hot Stuff.

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NATIONAL SCENE

NEWS & NOTES ON THE WORLD OF FISHING
with Al Ristori

Canadian Tuna Boat Seizures Emphasize Ridiculousness Of U.S. Tuna Position

Over the past couple of decades our State Department has made a practice of antagonizing foreign nations in order to protect the powerful west coast tuna industry. While passing out billions of the taxpayers dollars in a usually futile attempt to buy friends in Latin America, State has been insulting the very same people by refusing to recognize their control over the fisheries within their 200 miles limits. American tuna boats were allowed to violate those 200 mile limits before we adopted our own—and still are encouraged to do so because of the tuna exemption in our Act. While our problems in the past have been with neighbors to the south, our policy is now creating a confrontation with Canada—and, unfortunately, involves some relatively small albacore trollers, rather than the super-seiners.

As has been noted in this column previously, it was necessary to compromise on the tuna question when the 200 mile bill was passed in 1976, in order to avoid the possibility of a veto should the vote not be a 2/3 majority. Despite the fact (clear to all but our diplomats) that the Law of the Sea Conference was a failure and most countries were adopting 200 mile fisheries jurisdictions, our State Department fought the U.S. Bill right to the end. However, by 1976 public pressure to save our domestic fisheries from the foreign fleets over-exploiting them at the expense of American fishermen had become so great that not even the bureaucrats could hold back the tide. It was truly a thrilling moment! Just the sort of thing that happens occasionally to restore your faith in the system—public opinion prevailing our bureaucrats (more interested in foreigners than the American paying their saleries) and special interests. Unfortunately, it wasn't all that neat when the chips were down. The west coast tuna lobby managed to first get all "oceanic" species exempted from the bill—and eventually settled for an exemption of only the tunas.

Exempting oceanic species from national jurisdiction may sound like a great idea in theory, but international cooperation has rarely worked in fisheries shared by many countries. It certainly hasn't in the Atlantic, where ICCAT and ICNAF have simply sanctioned overfishing rather than taking any significant actions to stop it. Inevitably, politics have overcome biological considerations and there is no reason to suspect that will change.

Our present position can't even be justified by the "oceanic" species joint jurisdiction theory. The fact of the matter is that all oceanic species other than the tunas were included in the 200 mile limit and there is no biological basis for treating marlin and swordfish as national property, and tunas as international property. Though our bureaucrats continue to insist that our position is a biological one (if you tell a lie often enough you just may come to believe it after awhile), the fact of the matter is that it is purely based on political and economic considerations. The west coast tuna industry wants the right to operate anywhere they want to go and still have the protection of the Fisherman's Protection Act, which they'd lose if tuna were included in our 200 mile law.

Caught in the middle of all this are independent west coast albacore trollers who follow that long-finned tuna from the time it approaches southern California waters until it swings north and moves far offshore in the fall. Fortunately, albacore can't be economically purse seined, and they've stood up quite well despite the pressures exerted by longliners and trollers. Normally the albacore stay in U.S. waters throughout the season, but occasionally the currents shift and schools move offshore of the Queen Charlotte Islands. The Canadians (in common with most, if not all, nations other than the U.S. that have 200 mile limits) consider all fisheries in their waters to be under their control. Indeed, they very tightly control the east coast bluefin tuna fishery and won't permit the Japanese to longline in Canadian waters. The albacore themselves are not the problem in this situation. Since that species rarely moves into Canadian waters, there are few Canadian boats in the fishery. However, the U.S. has nothing to trade off in tuna because of the tuna exemption. The Canadians can already fish tuna in our waters whenever they want to!

The trade-off the Canadians want involves halibut off the Alaskan coast, a fishery they've traditionally shared with the U.S. So far the Canadians have seized 19 U.S. vessels and will continue to do so until their law is respected. The State Department has responded with the usual business about albacore being oceanic fish, but done nothing to stop the instrusion of American boats into Canadian waters. An embargo has been placed on all shipments of tuna and tuna products from Canada, but this is of little consequence as they amounted to only $170,000 last year and can as easily be sold in other parts of the world.

The net result of this turmoil will probably be rejection of the proposed treaties on fishing rights between the U.S. and Canada and further tightening of tensions between two nations with similar heritages. The incident wouldn't have occured if it weren't for our unrealistic insistence on the special status of tuna stocks. All of that is strictly for domestic consumption, and there isn't another country in the world that gives a toot for the American position. Even the present Law of the Sea draft takes this into consideration by recognizing national preferences for oceanic species while they're within that country's 200 mile jurisdiction. The net result of our policy has been to antagonize otherwise friendly foreign countries and allow destruction of domestic tuna stocks on the east coast (by both Japanese longlingers and a Canadian purse seiner) all for the benefit of the west coast tuna industry.

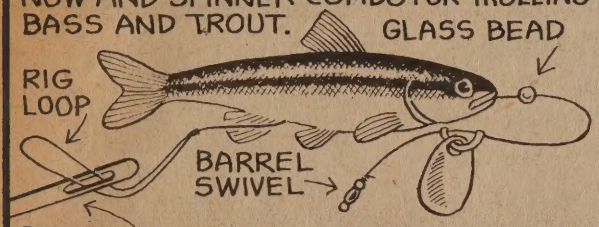
Unfortunately, there is little hope that any of this will change in the near future. NMFS appears quite willing to write off the Atlantic bluefin tuna, and fishermen haven't exerted enough pressure on Congress to overcome the influence of the west coast tuna industry and the almost equally powerful Japanese lobby. While fishermen and other concerned citizens around the country were able to overcome the lobbies to get the 200 mile law passed, only a small portion of that coalition is concerned about tuna making it difficult to create the same kind of effective force. At the recent Congressional hearings on bills that would remove, or alter, the present tuna exemption, the House Merchant Marine & Fisheries Committee seemed satisfied to instruct NMFS to allow the councils to restrict foreign longlining by area and season to present excessive bycatches of billfish. If there's going to be any change in this situation, it will require a massive effort on the part of those (where are you, tuna clubs?) interested in both the conservation of tuna and a U.S. policy which respects the rights of other countries and not just that of one particular industry.

FISHERMAN TIPS

BY FRED GUARDINEER

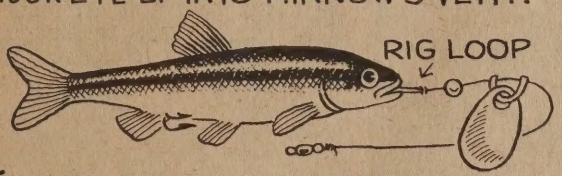
HOW TO RIG A TREBLE HOOK

MINNOW AND SPINNER COMBO FOR TROLLING BASS AND TROUT.



PUSH A THREADING NEEDLE THROUGH MOUTH AND OUT VENT. PUT RIG LOOP IN NEEDLE'S EYE AND PULL THROUGH VENT.

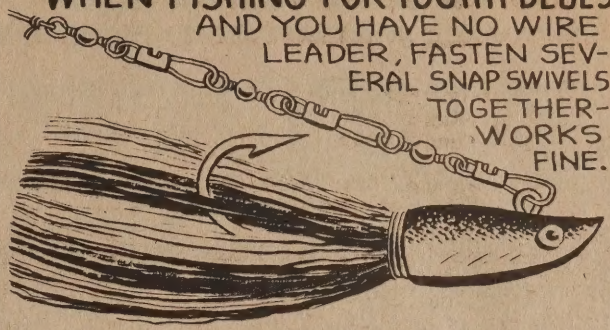
ATTACH SMALL TREBLE HOOK EYE ON RIG LOOP AND SNUG UP TIGHT. PULL HOOK EYE UP INTO MINNOW'S VENT.



FINISHED RIG... LOOP EXTENDS IN FRONT OF MINNOW'S MOUTH. THE GLASS BEAD RIDES ON THE LOOP KNOT AND THE CLEVIS AND SPINNER RIDE ON THE GLASS BEAD.

WHEN FISHING FOR TOOTHY BLUES

AND YOU HAVE NO WIRE LEADER, FASTEN SEVERAL SNAP SWIVELS TOGETHER- WORKS FINE.

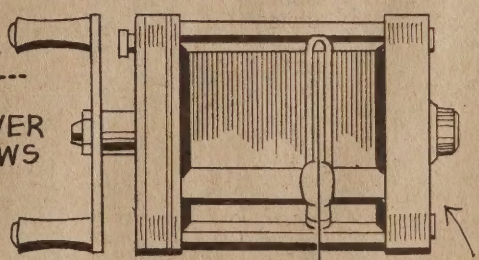


ONCE YOUR LINE BECOMES TWISTED

DON'T TRY TO CONTINUE FISHING. IT'S HOPELESS. *TROLL THE LINE* BEHIND THE BOAT - THIS WILL REMOVE THE TWIST.

HOW TO SPOOL LINE ON A CASTING,

BOAT OR BIG GAME REEL BY RUNNING A PENCIL THROUGH THE LINE SPOOL...


SLIGHT TENSION
CASTING REEL
FOR ONE MAN JOB HOLD PENCIL IN VISE.
SPOOL OF LINE
PENCIL
LINE SPOOL AND REEL SPOOL TURN IN SAME DIRECTION.

WHAT DOCTORS DO ON

WEDNESDAY. A SURVEY SHOWS FRESHWATER FISHING TIES WITH GOLF FOR 4TH PLACE BEHIND SWIMMING, GARDENING AND PHOTOGRAPHY. SALTWATER FISHING CAME IN 9TH AND HUNTING 10TH OUT OF 20 OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES. A FISHING ROD AND REEL WAS FIRST IN OWNERSHIP OF SPORTS EQUIPMENT.

UNDERWATER LIGHT...

SEAL FLASHLIGHT IN WATERTIGHT JAR. LOWER ON WIRE. BOTTOM SHOWS UP CLEARLY!

FISH TALK

with Dr. William A. Muller

HAVE YOU TRIED THIS?

MARVELOUS LETTER FROM SKIDMORE'S! Jim DeVita of Skidmore's Fishing Station in East Moriches recently sent in a letter which was not only well written, but I think will add another dimension to the fluke fishing of many of our readers. Although the fluke season is waning, this is the time of year when some huge doormats fall to a baited hook; and there are those fishermen who seek these doormats out each fall. If that's not you, then you might want to keep Jim's tip in mind for next year. "In reading your article in this week's Fisherman, 'Ins and Outs of Fluking', while I found it well written and quite informative, I feel it is not complete. There is a rig which is used for fluke that can be deadly, yet I have never seen it mentioned in any article in any paper. This is the float rig which many anglers have taken to using in Moriches Bay. The rig is simple: it consists of a 3/0 or 4/0 hook tied to a thirty-six inch leader. The rig also uses a small split shot and a medium sized float. While I must admit that this rig would probably not work well in deep water, it is very effective in shallow bays such as Moriches. I have had great success with this rig when regular sinker and hook rigs just weren't doing the job. The idea is to tie the hook directly to your line, place the split shot about six inches above the hook, and adjust the position of the float so that your bait stays between the bottom and six inches off the bottom. Using the rig in this manner keeps the bait in good view of the feeding fluke, but keeps seaweed and crabs off the hook. The rig is really hot when working the side of a bar; I cast the rig up on the bar and then let the tide slide it off. At many times, you can anchor up in a productive spot and let the tide do the drifting for you. The rig also allows you to use a much lighter rod than you might otherwise use, because there is no heavy sinker. I will admit that some fishermen find the rig impossible to fish with, while others swear by it. But isn't that fishing?" All I can say, Jim, is that I wish I had talked to you before I made a fluke trip in Fire Island Inlet earlier this summer. Oh, we had fish all right, but as soon as the tide started to run hard, the area filled up with weed. With your rig I would have been able to continue to take fish. But I'll remember it for next year.

TRY THESE SPOTS! Betty Davis of Bayside was referred via the mail to us from Al Ristori concerning a fishing problem she has. "Mr. Al Ristori suggested I should get in touch with you. I moved to New York eleven months ago from San Francisco. I enjoy fishing, which I did in Marin County north of San Francisco. Trout and striped bass were the species I caught. I would like to know where I can do some shore fishing or join a boat club." Although I have never sampled the striper fishing on the West Coast, I have heard tales and read stories that describe catches of big fish close to the beach during the day. Since night fishing for bass is not permitted in California, there must be one hell of a lot of stripers out West in order to be able to take them regularly during the day—especially big ones. This is a long prelude to the question I must ask in response to your question. Can New York striped bass fishing please you after you have had a taste of the California good life? Seriously though, maybe we can help you and any other of our readers who may have recently moved into this area. It is tough for a fisherman or fisherwoman to get their "feet wet" in a new territory, since there is so much to learn. Since you live in Bayside, let's start with a spot that is very close to home. The area near the Throgs Neck Bridge on the Queens County side offers many good possibilities for shore fishermen. For example, from the jetty they catch flounder, mackerel, striped bass, porgies, blackfish, and blues. Sometimes, when the blues trap bunker deep in the western Sound, the jetty fishermen catch blues up to fifteen and more pounds. The bass are usually small. The New York State Parks such as Jones Beach, Robert Moses, Montauk, Wildwood, Orient, and Caumsett also provide access to the shore fisherman. All it takes is a free fishing permit (except Caumsett), which can be secured at any State Park. Getting in tune with boat fishing is another story. If you own your own boat, you can always learn via the search-and-destroy method; i.e., launch the boat, go to a spot, try fishing, and see what happens. Repeat the process at a thousand spots until you score. That may sound crazy, but that is how this recreational fishing thing started in the first place—somebody had to be first! Most people, however, usually take a different course. They read about the sport every chance they get, they talk to other fishermen, they read the Fishing Reports, they visit local tackle shops, and they join a club. If you want to join a club, keep a lookout for announcements in the "Club News" section of The Fisherman. Since you are female, be careful and try to avoid the difficult spot that one recent reader found herself in. Make sure to let the club know you are a woman. I'm sure that you will find a suitable club.

HAVE YOU TRIED FISH ACID? I think by now most of you have seen the bumper stickers that suggest we eat fish to live longer and shellfish to last longer. Well, it's no secret that fish are good for you. Fish represents a high quality protein with relatively little fat. Now, a scientist from England, Dr. John Vane, says that he has found an acid in fish and shellfish—eicosapentaenoic acid—which our bodies use to make prostacyclin. According to the scientist, prostacyclin is an excellent protector against blood clotting. As we know, blood clots in the brain produce strokes and clots in the vessels of the heart bring on heart attacks. Thus, eating fish and shellfish regularly may play a role in preventing these two diseases. Did you know that heart disease is now the number one killer of Americans? If this new evidence indicating fish regularly in the diet can help prevent heart disease can be confirmed with further research, then we may have an important breakthrough in the fight against the disease. Clearly, there are many other factors involved such as drinking, smoking, obesity, genetics, stress, etc., so that this discovery should not be viewed as the end-all solution. However, consider the Eskimo, who eats tremendous amounts of fat (high cholesterol in the diet) and yet heart attacks are rare among them. Perhaps we should say **were** rare among them. Today, the majority of Eskimos have abandoned their traditional ways in favor of western culture. According to Dr. Vane, shellfish may contain up to twenty per cent of the acid, while fish usually contain around ten per cent.

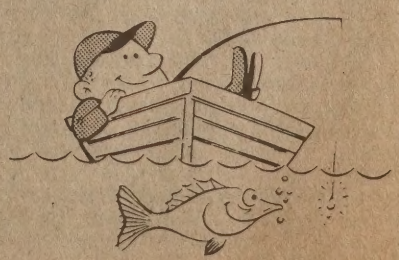
HAVE YOU TRIED FILLET OF SUNDIAL? Sundials or windowpane flounder—call them by any other name and they would taste as sweet. These flatfish are often considered to be pests and frequently fishermen will discard them with disdain. However, they are good eating and there are some who seek them out on purpose, preferring them to fluke. Recently, we received a letter from Joe Anle of Centereach about this very topic. "On a recent fishing trip on Long Island Sound, drifting squid strips and plastic shrimp near the bottom, I encountered a school

of sundials. I caught eighteen of the flatfish and subsequently returned them to the water. The action these fish provided saved an otherwise boring trip. The experience sparked my interest in this species and suggested the following questions. One, are these fish related to flounder or fluke? Are these fish edible? How large do they grow? And fourth, when do they arrive in and then leave our local waters?''

THE SECOND QUESTION ALREADY ANSWERED! The fish are very good to eat, but since they are so skinny it takes a pretty good-sized fish to be worth anything. Then, too, you'll have to catch and clean an awful lot of them to make a meal for the family. This is the reason why they are of little commercial value: too much time to catch and dress the catch per unit of salable flesh, and not enough meat per pound of fish in the round. The sundial, **Scopthalmus aquosus**, is a left-eyed flounder and is thus part of the family Bothidae which includes the fluke, brill, bigmouth sole, and Pacific halibut. Windowpane flounder are usually less than a foot in length, but some specimens to around fifteen inches have been taken. These flatfish can be found in very shallow water, but are not shy about deeper water either. They probably never arrive and leave. They are constant residents in the waters of their range: Gulf of St. Lawrence to North Carolina. They may move inshore and offshore in order to find either food or comfortable temperatures, but they are not given to vast migrations. They prefer sand eels as food, but will also feed on almost anything that they can catch. Although they are quite thin, they are aggressive and groups of them have been observed to herd bait and then attack by slashing through the bait school. They can tolerate a vast range of temperatures; therefore, you may catch them in the summer as well as early spring and late fall.

HAVE YOU TRIED THIS ANGLE? The 200-Mile Limit has given the United States control over our coastal fisheries, right? Wrong! Only some foreign countries have actually been eliminated from fishing competition on the Continental Shelf. Would you believe that Britain, Japan, Denmark, Canada, Mexico, Iceland, Norway, and Kuwait continue to fish on our shelves unrestricted and uncontrolled? How could this be? The answer is that there is a loophole in the 200-Mile Limit Law: a foreign country is not prohibited from buying a U.S. fishing company. Let's take several examples: Whitney-Fidalgo Seafoods, Inc., is/was a major U.S. fishing company. They operate seventy-one vessels. However, today, 98% of that company is owned by KYOKUYO Co. of Japan. Then, many of us are familiar with Seacoast Products which is owned by Hanson Trust Ltd., of Britain. Foreign-owned, U.S.-based fishing companies were responsible for 28% of the United States fishery export in 1976 even before the 200-Mile Law took effect and that percentage will grow. I, for one, wonder what has become of national pride. How could anyone sell out like that? I guess pride goes out the window when the almighty buck flies in the window!

I BETTER WATCH IT! Remarks like the one above may have been at least partially responsible for keeping me off the Mid-Atlantic Regional Fishery Management Council. Next week, I'm going to take a look at the recent appointments to the Council from my point of view!



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Surf Side with John Fritz

FALL RUN: IT AIN'T WHAT IT USED TO BE

At last! The long-awaited fall run is in full swing. Hundreds of surfmen are lined up along Long Island beaches casting artificials to hungry schools of passing bass and blues. Right? Wrong! Sure, there are occasions when fish are present in the surf, hitting anything thrown their way; but in recent years, this classic concept of fishing the return migration has proved illusory. Nowhere is this more evident than along the Cedar/Gilgo waterfront. In years past, the bar at Cedar resembled North Bar at the height of a bluefish blitz. More often, casters were lined shoulder to shoulder along the water's edge taking fish from the turbulent surf washing over the bar. At other times, buggies sped westward chasing the game fish as they followed the pods of bait. In the more recent past, scores of anglers filled the beaches in this region slinging eels into the wash using every type gear imaginable. The month of October witnessed the landings of undreamed of numbers of cow bass by novice, as well as experienced anglers. Lately, however, these occasions are becoming a fading memory, for successful fishing in this general area is requiring more and more perseverance and expertise. Many arguments have been advanced explaining the decline of quality fishing hereabouts. Whether it be pollution in the spawning areas or excessively heavy fishing pressure by netter and pin hooker alike, substitute methods and alternative species must be accepted if some measure of success is to be achieved.

It seems that in those good years when so many cow bass were being taken on live eels, relatively little interference was encountered from other species. Most of this fine action took place during a thirty-day period beginning around October 10. During the past year, most of the fish taken while bottom fishing throughout this time span happened to be teen-sized bluefish. Although there were a few impressive catches of striped bass, led by Bob Smith's fifty-six pounder, they were few and far between. Because of this predominance by bluefish, most anglers discontinued purchasing live eels and switched to either mackerel or bunker chunks for bait.

The mackerel in most cases were stashed in the freezer after the spring mackerel run, but the more successful anglers used fresh bunker which had been snagged beforehand. For those anglers without the spare time or the inclination to seek out places where bunker can be snagged, most tackle shops keep a supply of frozen bunker on hand for use as bait. Aside from the inconvenience inherent in obtaining the fresh item, bunker which has not been previously frozen has a more firm flesh which will hold together longer after being immersed in saltwater. More important, though, is the fact that given a choice, a fish will more readily choose a piece of fresh bait.

Before we delve into some of the finer points of Autumn bait fishing for game fish in the Gilgo Beach area, let me spend a little time describing a few other possibilities. Some unusual species of fish inhabit these waters up to the time when the water temperature falls below a point which forces them to seek other climes.

Unknown to most bathers and many anglers, the inshore waters during the summer and early autumn are occupied by various species of toothy sharks and huge stingrays. If a surfman is unaware of their presence, visions of trophy sized bass are apparently coursing through the mind of anyone hooking into one of these critters. Reels have been stripped by such creatures, whose proportions will never be known. Sharks and stingrays of impressive dimensions have been successfully landed by surfmen using sufficiently strong equipment and a great amount of patience. Hooks baited with chunks of mackerel or bunker and fitted with a wire leader are necessary if landing any of these sharks is desired. Needless to say, extreme caution should be used when handling any of these dangerous species.

Stingrays exceeding fifty pounds have occasionally been landed, but they present a unique problem when worked close to the shore. They will often cup their wings in such a way to seemingly latch onto the bottom just beyond the breaking surf. The battle resolves down to who can outlast the other: the ray fighting with all his strength for his life, or the angler exerting as much pressure as his equipment will bear for as long as it is necessary to tire the fish. Once beached, be extremely wary of the barb located in the tail about two-thirds of the distance from the tip to the base. After unhooking the fish, it should be eased back into the water and not left on the beach to be wasted in death.

As stated previously, the majority of the game fish catch consists of bluefish. Not just run of the mill blues, but hard-fighting fish reportedly up to twenty pounds; although most of the fish average five to eight pounds less in weight. For all their fierce resistance after the hook is set, the pick-up can often be so slight as to be unnoticeable. When conditions are right—calm surf, good visibility and little wind—the imperceptible movement of the rod tip can be readily ascertained. On the other hand, if the night is dark, the surf heavy or a strong wind is blowing (especially a crosswind), these telltale signs are most difficult to detect. This forces the more successful anglers to wait, holding their rods—not leaving them rest in the sand spike.

A lengthy rod and a long sand spike will hold more of your line away from the disturbance caused by the waves. On the negative side, this added height will also expose more line to the effects of a strong crosswind. The result of this latter condition will create a large wind loop or bow to be formed in the line between the rod tip and the point where the line enters the water. In order to detect a pickup under these circumstances, a fish will have to swim with the bait for a distance which will straighten sufficient line to transmit its actions to the rod tip. If the bait is swallowed, an angler will encounter little difficulty, for the hook should be deep in the fish's gullet; but on many occasions the blue will just mouth the bait, ready to expel it at the first sign that something is amiss.

There are a few steps the angler can take to counter this difficulty. When baiting the hook with either a chunk of mackerel or bunker use a large hook. By exposing the point of a sharply honed hook, an angler increases his chances of setting the hook in some part of the fish's anatomy before it can react to rid itself of the bait.

An angler holding the rod in his hands and keeping the tip low to the water will offer less resistance to the effects of a crosswind. This practice will also allow him to compensate for any drifting of the terminal gear caused by wind or water by reeling in the slack line as it is created. In order to reduce this problem and also because they feel they have better control of the line, many sharp bait fishermen are forsaking spinning gear. These sharpies are resorting to conventional reels coupled with shorter surf sticks and low sand spikes. How many rods does a surfman carry?

By far, the most commonly used terminal gear is the fish finder rig with a cork added in all cases except when fishing with live eels to help keep the bait away from crabs. By lenghtening the leader, thereby increasing the distance between the hook and the snap, greater reach off the bottom can be gained by sliding the cork close to the hook. The oval, fluorescent red cork floats, which measure two inches by one inch, listed in the Surfcaster's catalog for $.25 apiece, are sufficient for most occasions.

While most game fish will prowl the entire surf line seeking food, certain locations seem to produce better results than others. In the Cedar-Gilgo area, a few specific places are favored by the anglers who regularly

frequent this area. The following areas have produced well in the past, but it must be remembered that coastal storms can radically alter any beach and places where holes, bars and cuts were present one day, can be gone the next.

Starting in the west, the beach to the left of the Tobay Pavilion is preferred by many anglers not equipped with buggies, for they can park their cars in the lot with a short walk across the highway to the fishing area. The bar to the west of the Gilgo underpass and the bar found to the front of the Gilgo Coast Guard Station are also prime areas which can be reached by those anglers on foot. Moving further east, an area called the Pines is favored by buggy owners both for its seclusion and for the fact that it yields an ample amount of fish. The Cedar Bar and the Old Channel in front of the Overlook Pavilion are fertile areas which are readily accessible to both driver and walker alike. The Cedar Bar is mainly living on its past reputation, for the last few years have seen little activity in this region. I feel it must be mentioned, because if the bar is formed to the physical proportions of yesteryear, this place will once again become the best location for bass and blues along this stretch of waterfront.

In closing out our list of preferred areas, the Old Channel east of Cedar and the Sore Thumb are areas which provide for a somewhat different approach, for while the currents are extremely strong, there is normally little surf to contend with. On occasion, this section of beach can save the day; for when the outside surf is too heavy to fish effectively, calmer water can often be found here. At times, it is impossible to fish bottom in this area, except at periods of slack water, because of the tremendous amount of weed prevalent in these strong currents. The water is deep a short distance off the beach; therefore, it is often worthwhile to contend with a certain amount of aggravation as bass, blues and weakfish frequently occupy this natural runway in abundance.

Bait fishing is looked down upon by many purists in the field of sport fishing. When the fish are hard to come by, the patient surfman slinging bait will often achieve results while the plug caster leaves the beach with an empty stringer. Then, again, a smart angler can combine the best of both methods by working various stretches of beach using rigged eels—but that is another story.

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Sinker Bouncing

with Matt Ahern

WHO SAYS THERE ARE NO FISH?

A while back I received a letter from a discouraged reader of this column telling me he had been out party boat fishing for ling and hadn't caught so much as one fish—nor was there one caught on the entire boat. This, you can imagine, was difficult for me to believe. Something, I told myself, was definitely wrong. I say this not because I doubted my disheartened fisherman, but because never in all my experience with ling has such a sad state of affairs happened to me; nor throughout my many years of fishing had I ever seen such a situation befall anyone of my acquaintance. My own experience and approach to ling fishing has always been simple: merely a case of anchoring or drifting over known ling-fishing areas, and, when using the proper bait and rig-up, catching all that was desired. Therefore, several nagging questions entered my mind. I asked myself could ling fishing really be this bad? Was I actually out of touch with the current situation? The big question was what to do about it. I immediately wrote back to my disgruntled reader and requested additional information. Where was the fishing done? What kind of weather prevailed? et cetera, et cetera. Well, I waited a reasonable length of time for a reply, but as none seemed forthcoming, I decided to try some ling fishing myself and find out firsthand just how badly this fishing had deteriorated—if, in fact, it had.

The obvious thing for me to do, of course, was to get out there as soon as possible, for I realized the best of the ling-fishing season was rapidly passing with the approach of summer. In a few short weeks, my opportunity would be gone. It was now or never.

Being more or less desperate to test the courage of my convictions that ling fishing was still good, I took the bull by the horns and went to see my friend, Captain Clark Bellows of the Capt. Clark II, who sails out of Shinnecock Canal, Hampton Bays, and makes frequent offshore trips in season. I asked him for the latest information on the ling situation.

"Ling? Sure, Matt. We're catching plenty of ling whenever we go offshore," Captain Clark told me. "Actually, though, we go for sea bass and we get some nice ones. Some days are excellent for big bass and some days are a bit slower; but we usually manage to get some. As for ling, there's no problem. Come out with us and try it."

How could I refuse such a kind invitation?

Because Captain Clark also fishes Peconic Bay for weakfish and porgies, I bided my time until he was ready to give the offshore grounds a try, which in this particular case was a beautiful Friday in mid-June. We left at 8AM and in a short time had passed through Shinnecock Inlet, headed for the Bridge Wreck. Less than forty minutes later, we were fishing.

What has come to be known as the Bridge Wreck is actually an artificial reef constructed of several sunken barges weighted down with the remnants of the old Montauk Highway Bridge that had spanned the Shinnecock Canal for many, many years. When it was replaced some four or five years ago by a modern, up-to-date bridge, Captain Clark, along with several local fishermen, made arrangements to have the barges towed out and sunk with their cargo in eighty feet of water.

This made a welcome addition to the local fishing grounds, for all that was available to regional wreck fishing party boat skippers before then was the old Panther Wreck lying a few miles to the east. Sinking that bridge and those barbes was certainly worth all the effort and expense. If you couldn't catch fish from the Bridge Wreck the day I went out, you weren't trying very hard.

Usually when I go out party boat fishing, I devote much—if not all—of my time to taking photos of the action. But because I'm a ling fan from way back, and because I wanted to find out firsthand just how good (or bad) the ling fishing was as compared to the old days, I immediately grabbed a rental rod and went to the rail and dunked bait overboard.

Minutes later, the cry of sea bass came from the stern. A nice pound-and-a-half fish. Then a fisherman on the bow nailed one at least a pound heavier. Then I came up with a double-header: a ling on the bottom hook and a half-pound sea bass on the other. I returned this sea bass and was immediately rewarded with another of keeper size. Ling were coming up wherever one looked, and minutes later the lady angler alongside me brought in a nice sea bass. Down went her rig again and this time she came up with a large, pot-bellied ling.

And so it went throughout the day, with ling predominating. Soon buckets began to overflow with fish and when mine began to jump out of the container, I quit fishing for awhile and picked up the camera.

Look to your laurels, fellows. The ladies are catching up.

Who says there are no fish?

There was a fair southwesterly breeze making itself felt throughout the day, but this didn't keep the fishermen from the rail. Taking pictures of fish coming over the rail was a snap. All I had to do was focus on one fisherman for a minute and up would come a ling, or perhaps a sea bass. It was like old-time fishing.

The bait supplied with the fare was sliced skimmer and squid and most everyone used the popular deep-sea, high-low rig. While I believe just as many sea bass were caught on skimmer, I did notice the larger bass went for the top hook when it was baited with squid. I suppose that perhaps I should have used squid, too, but didn't bother. I stayed with the sliced skimmer and had no difficulty getting all the action I wanted.

I noticed, too, that Mike, the mate, was one busy boy. If he wasn't untangling the inevitable snarled lines, he was continuously unhooking fish for any of the eighteen or so passengers on board who might need his expert assistance. It seemed to me that replenishing the rapidly depleted bait containers spotted around the boat became a never-ending chore for him. As for myself, I always believed I was kept busy when I put in my years of party boat mating, but Mike worked harder than I ever could remember myself doing. If he had intended to do a little fishing on his own, I felt sorry for him, for he never got the opportunity. There was just too much action.

While I was fortunate in not getting hung up on the sunken bridge during the day, some passengers did. Once your rig was snagged, you could forget all about the possibility of salvaging some part of your terminal gear. But that was really no problem for the snagged fisherman. Mike was always on hand to break off the rig and replace sinkers and hooks. There was no charge for lost terminal gear if you didn't have your own replacements—which you must admit is a pretty good deal for fishermen today.

I'm sure just about everyone hated to see the time come when we had to head for home, even if many of the passengers had actually stopped fishing sometime before. It was that kind of day.

Matt with an average sized bridge wreck sea bass.

I don't think Mike ever did finish his fish-cleaning chores for the passengers, but I don't believe anyone complained about that. Before I stepped ashore, Captain Clark reminded me to be on board sometime in late September or early October for some of the big blackfish and sea porgies he expects to find on the wreck at that time.

I wouldn't miss that on a bet.

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CATCH YOUR OWN BAIT

Part Two — by Herb Buch

Nets for the man who wants to keep his feet dry take many forms. Of these, the most widely used model is the so-called umbrella net. It receives its name from the long, slim metal frame which opens outward like an umbrella. The corners of a square of fine-meshed netting attach to the ends of the open metal arms. These nets may be used from an anchored boat, a pier, a bridge, and in many other situations. A small mesh bag of bait or chum may be tied to the center of the frame before the net is lowered to the bottom. The bait may be crushed canned sardines in a piece of cheesecloth or nylon mesh which is tied to the frame, or a crushed crab or clam lying right on the netting. Many small fish and shrimp will be attracted by the scent and when you lift the net, they will be trapped.

Another successful way to use these nets is to sink them to the bottom, and then chum bait over the net. You do this by crumbling little bits of canned fish in your fingers, feeding small amounts to schools of spearing, while gradually leading them over the net with the chum. Feed very sparingly so they will follow your lead to the bait on the net. Make allowances for the current when you do this. Once you begin to lift, the center of the net bags downward, and very few of the bait fish will escape.

One caution is necessary. When this net is out of the water, the wind catches it easily, and it will flip over, scattering all your hard-earned bait all over the place and very often, back into the water. When the wind is blowing, kneel quickly on the up-wind side of the net to protect your catch from an upset.

The umbrella net works best where you have observed bait in the water. If one spot does not produce any results, move the net to a new location. There are times when bait is so abundant that all you have to do is to submerge the net and wait until they swim above it. At this point, you lift quickly and smoothly and you may have all the bait that you need for the day. Bridges very often harbor large schools of bait fish near the surface, as do docks and piers. They can be fished successfully only near slack water, because at other times the current will sweep the net away from under the bait. I have even used this type of net from a rock jetty to catch sand eels that were swimming along the rocks in the shallows. It was done by tying the heavy cord with which you pull the net, to the end of a six foot pole. This allowed me to lift it over the rocks. All I had to do was to swing out the net and let it settle to the bottom, then wait for a school of sand eels to swim over the net. At this point, the pole was used as a lever to lift the net without it catching on the edge of the rocks.

Flip the screen bag so it lands horizontally, to keep the bait inside as it sinks.

The screen pocket net is very simple to construct and to use. It consists of a piece of aluminum screening, fastened with copper or aluminum wire to form a pocket. The dimensions can vary with your preferences or with available materials. The open end is bridled with a piece of heavy monofilament, and a length of cord is attached to this (see picture). A canned sardine is mashed against the inside of the net. It is then swung out from the shore or dropped from a pier or bridge so that it will sink on its side till it rests on the bottom. If it sinks with the open end up, the bait will float out of the net. You place several of these nets in the water

and alternately pull them in. Many forms of bait will swim or crawl into the open end to feed on the sardines. They have produced many spearing for me even when flipped out from the sandy shore of the bay. Free bait is often available in the form of discarded crabs or clam shells which can be crushed in the nets.

Screen bag nets will not turn over in the wind like an umbrella net will as you lift them from the water. They may be used from high structures or on windy days when the other nets are not practical. They take up little room, are light in weight, and last a long time with little or no care.

Long-handled dip nets can produce lots of shrimp around the pilings of docks in some creeks. They will also enable you to scoop bait fish when some varieties are extremely abundant. I would not depend on this net as my only means of obtaining bait, because it is only productive under special conditions. A flattened end to the hoop will allow you to move this one along the bottom more successfully.

The cast or throw net is a circle of netting which is weighted on the outer edge. By manipulating the net with a circular motion as you throw it, centrifugal force causes it to open outward and cover bait fish as it sinks. When you pull the cord, it tucks the weighted edge of the net under, to trap whatever you covered. This net requires special instructions, which have been printed in The Long Island Fisherman before, or preferably, a demonstration.

It is very popular in many parts of the south where it is used to take mullet, shrimp, and many other fish. Last season I observed one being used from a boat, to take bunker from a school. The only thing I have against it is that it is difficult for me to use.

The killy trap is a two-piece cylinder of metal screen or plastic which has a funnel-shaped entrance at each end. You take it apart to store it or remove your catch and replace your bait. When it is baited and fastened together, a cord is attached and it is left in the water on the bottom wherever killies swim. It is simple to use, but does not produce the quantities of bait which some of the other nets will.

One of these nets may be just what you need to increase the success ratio of your fishing trips. They are all effective in catching the smaller forms of live bait, but one of them would probably fit your needs better than the others. If you use bait, you will catch more fish if it is alive or freshly caught. Try netting as a way of learning more about the different animals that live in your local waters. You may find that you want to keep on netting even after you have enough bait, because it is so interesting.

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THANK GOD FOR SNAPPERS!

by Dick Mermon

Snappers are not prejudice as to whose bait it should grab and run away with, even little girls can catch them.

"Got one!" the young angler cried, forcefully lifting a silver-sided fish of about five inches in length from the water and dancing a gleeful jig instantly.

"Hang onto him," shouted one of the float-walking judges. "Those are barbless hooks and it'll fall off," he added, reaching towards a squirming immature bluefish. As the youthful fisherman cavorted in a victory bounce, he howled, "I'm a winner! I'm a winner!" And a winner he was, for the juvenile angler had just caught the third place snapper in a fish-off with eleven other participants during Hudson Point Marina's first annual snapper derby.

Snappers, which are baby bluefish, must have been created for kids of all ages, from six to sixty. Appearing in local waters around the end of July, they remain active into early fall. Small in size at first showing, the voracious feeding habits push them to grow rapidly within a two week period. Towards August's end, just about the time most youngsters are concluding their glorious summer's vacation, snappers go on a rampaging feast. This fishing activity is enough to ease painful thoughts of returning to school. It is the last hurrah for the season for many youthful anglers.

When snappers arrive, various sections of shore line and inner bays decline in fishing activity. This is better known as the "dog days" of August. Once the word has been passed, anglers of all sizes, sex, and age rally to docks, piers, bulkhead, and even boats to catch a quantity of snappers. Mother Nature truly gives fishing a needed shot in the arm by bringing into play a new bait for the larger species at hand. Predatory gamesters these snappers may be, but they can also become the hunted. Used in a live state, little bluefish are excellent baits for summer flounder (fluke), striped bass, mature bluefish, tuna, weakfish, and shark. During this period between hatch-out and junior size, snappers are readily dined upon and become the "IN" bait of that time. To this date, only a handful of knowledgeable anglers take advantage of the short, but active, span in baiting with live snappers.

There are two major reasons why snapper fishing is so popular. First, they are very cooperative when it comes to taking a baited hook, and second, the simplified method and locations by which they may be caught. We can think back to many of our youthful days, when a long bamboo pole, cork bobber, piece of string and a small hook was the tackle of the time for snappers.

Since these baby bluefish materialize directly after a hatch of silversides, or spearing, it is the primary bait employed. Still, there are other natural baits which can replace the old standby such as slivers of mackerel or menhaden flesh, sand eels, or the smallest of killiefish. These tiny predators will assault almost anything that swims in their path.

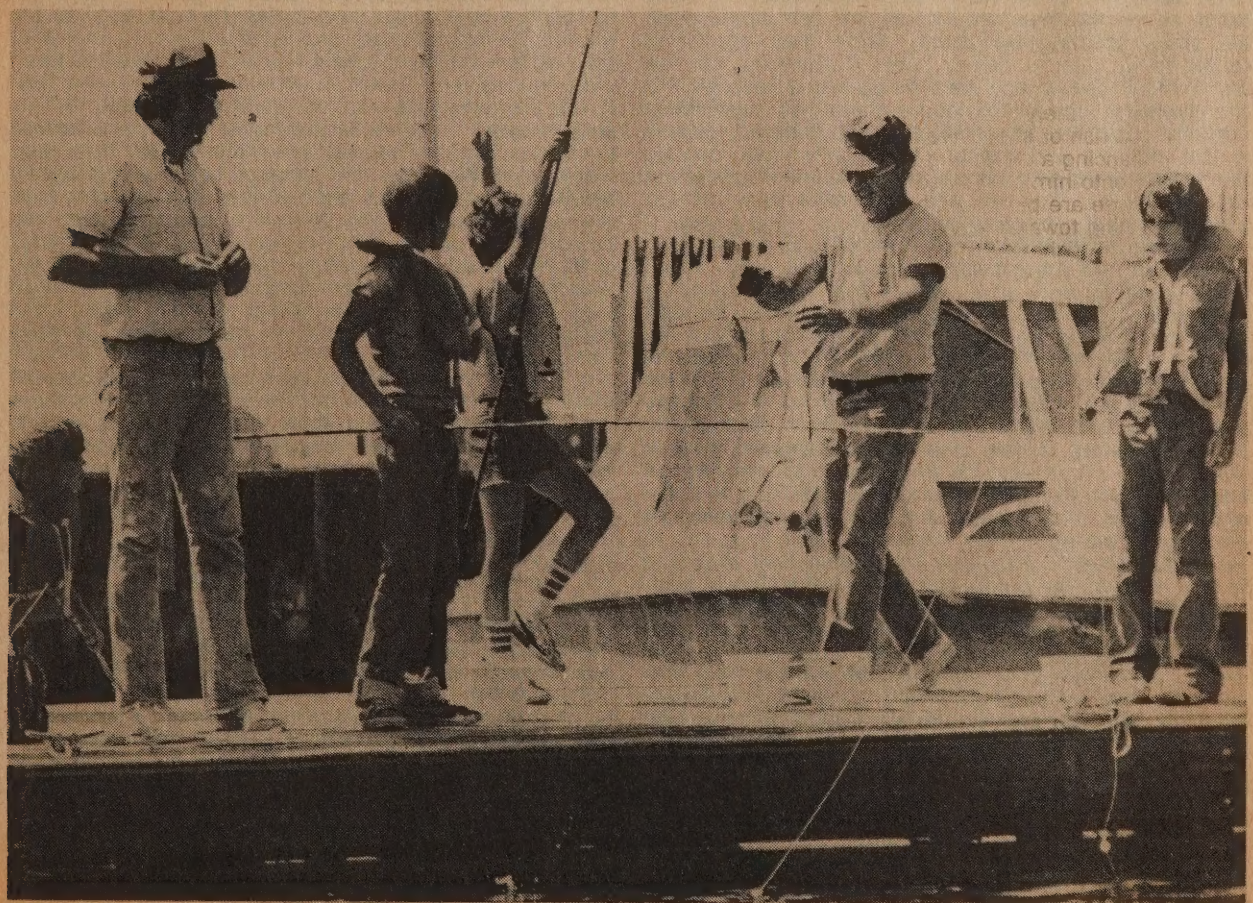
Like their fathers, mothers and even grandpas, baby blues attack prey from the tail section first. Instinctively they know, once a rear area is eliminated, the other half becomes immobile. Hence, this savagery produces a club as to the best method of applying a bait fish to a hook. Fastened double hooks, one which is long in the shank and the other one short, are best. However, for simplicity, a single long-shank hook works well. The hook's point is passed through the bait's eyes, from one side out the other, then is slide up as far as possible so the point and barb can be positioned into its tail section. Since these little savages attack a hind section first, the established barb is ready for action. This same baiting method can also be used with other baits mentioned, except in the case of live killies. Here, a single small #8 hook replaces the long-shank one. At this point, the killie fish is fastened through its lips, or upper back, and allowed freedom to swim. When the bobber goes down, the snapper goes up.

Ultra-light spinning tackle is a more sophisticated

(**Continued on page 23.**)

With high intent of winning and catching a snapper the young angler is in deep concentration.

Pity the poor snapper, for everyone chases him when he arrives on the scene.



"I'm a winner! I'm a winner!" yelped the youngster as Dick DeMott, one of the judges in Hudson Point Marina's snapper derby makes the grab.

SEPTEMBER'S STREAMLINED SPEEDSTERS

Bait Fishing For Albacore & Bonito

Part Two — by Sal Terranova

Albacore and bonito are caught exclusively during daylight hours. Overcast days seem to produce the best fishing. This is probably caused by the reduced underwater visibility on these days, which results in the fish throwing caution to the winds, and taking the bait more readily. On clear, extremely bright days when underwater visibility is best, albacore and bonito may pull a finicky feeder routine that would put the recently departed "Morris, the cat" to shame. On such days, the fish tend to get very cautious. They either mouth the bait and then spit it out when they feel the hook, or strike extremely fast, not giving you much of a chance to set the hook. On clear days when there is nary a breeze on the water, the fish sometimes pull a routine that can really send you to the loony bin. Underwater visibility being at its maximum, you'll see the fish zip through the slick, gobbling up chum, while they absolutely refuse to go near a baited hook. Fortunately for the sanity of all concerned, the fish do not always exhibit this behavior under the above-mentioned conditions. Actually, about the only thing that this definitely proves is that albacore and bonito, like all other fish, can be totally unpredictable at times. Then again, if all fishing was predictable like two and two make four, fishing would eventually get quite boring.

Unless albacore and bonito are pulling one of their finicky routines, they usually hit your hook pretty much like a bluefish, with your reel in free spool, stripping line through the slick, you get a fast runoff. Put your reel in gear before you do anything else. Then stab the fish hard! Brother, if he's on, you'll know it! Here the fish will make a long run. At this point, give him all the line he can take. Don't tighten that drag! If need be, walk him around the boat to wherever he's leading you, while attempting to steer clear of other anglers' lines in the process. When the fish stops his run, immediately apply pressure. Don't let him rest, but don't try to horse him in either. Their speed is sizzling as they take out line at an alarming rate. Now you can see why a fast-retrieve reel is desirable. This feature will allow you to gain a lot of line before the fish takes off on another run. Whenever the fish stops running, apply pressure by holding the rod high and retrieving any slack you can get. If need be, **gently** pump the rod to gain line, but be careful not to overdo it. Pumping the rod too hard may cause the hook to pull out. Briefly pumping is a process which is used to gain line from a hard-fighting fish. Pumping entails coming up with the rod to an almost vertical position from a horizontal position. This movement will draw the fish and line closer to you. You then come down fast with the rod to an almost horizontal position. This second movement will give you a couple of feet of slack line, which you should be reeling in as you come down with the rod. Through experience, you'll eventually get the knack of synchronizing the pumping motion with the fight of the fish. Pumping should only be applied when the fish is holding fairly steady, refusing to budge. Don't start pumping when the fish takes off on a fast run or is violently shaking his head. You'll probably pull the hook out or snap the line if you pump at this time.

Eventually your albacore or bonito will start getting tired. He will now be swimming in small tight circles, interspersed with shorter runs. Proceed as before, but be aware of a favorite gimmick that these fish share with bluefish. If all of a sudden you feel your line go slack, don't assume you've lost your fish and start to befoul the air about you with your favorite obscenities. Instead, play it smart and start reeling in like there is no tomorrow. Chances are the fish is still on the line, swimming toward the boat. What the fish may accomplish with this maneuver is to gain enough slack to spit the hook out or run under the boat and cut the line on the barnacle-encrusted keel. He may also foul the line around the propellers or rudder, which is even more fun, as you attempt to extricate your line and fish. If this happens, you can try putting your reel in free spool, hoping that the fish, suddenly feeling the release of tension, decided to untangle himself from the mess. However, getting your line snagged in the props usually results in a severed line and lost fish. Another cute trick that albacore and bonito love, is to swim between the bow of the boat and the anchor line. Sometimes they complement this by doubling back after you've passed your rod under the bowsprit to continue the fight. When they really get cute, they wrap the line around the anchor line several times. This usually means bye-bye fishie.

The only maneuver on your part that may succeed is to pass your rod under the bowsprit (not always possible, mind you) and then fight the fish from the other side. If he doubles back, you should do likewise. If he shows signs of trying to wrap himself around the anchor line, put all pressure possible on him to try to persuade him otherwise. Don't worry too much about popping the line. If the fish succeeds in accomplishing this maneuver, you most likely are going to lose him and pop the line anyway. Lest I make these fish sound as though they are the Einsteins of the fish world, these antics are merely a natural reaction to being hooked. The albacore and bonito's superior strength and swiftness allows them to pull these stunts more readily than most fish.

The most crucial part of the fight comes when your fish, supposedly all played-out, comes near the reach of the gaff. Many albacore and bonito are lost at this stage of the game. The fish, getting a good look at either the boat or the gaff, practically always musters up enough strength for one last run. Here, they usually sound; that is, dive straight down. The experienced angler always lets the fish run, then gently works him back to the boat. The inexperienced angler gets buck fever, and either tightens up on the drag or tries to horse the fish back to the boat. Either way, the result is usually the

same. The hook pulls out or the line is broken, and the fish gains his freedom. "Be prepared," as the Boy Scouts are fond of saying—and keep your cool.

Don't worry too much if in your first endeavors with the "Dynamic Duo" you pop some lines and lose some fish. We all do. Yes, Virginia, even the sharpies pop a few lines every now and then. This is big league fishing on a smaller scale. You will eventually get the hang of it, provided you **learn** from your mistakes. Once you've become proficient at albacore and bonito fishing, rest assured that you are on your way to becoming a top-notch fisherman.

Unless you charter or possess your own boat, your fishing for the "Dynamic Duo" will be limited to party boats. The only drawback to fishing on party boats is too many anglers, especially on weekends. Overcrowded conditions are anathema to this type of fishing. If possible, go fishing on a weekday when the number of anglers on board is a little more reasonable. Otherwise, party boats are ideal. The captains know the fishing grounds better than anyone else, and are up on what's happening on the fishing scene. For the most part, the boats are large, swift, and well-equipped with all the latest electronics. They are out on the water everyday (weather permitting) and only King Neptune knows more about the current fishing situation than their captains and crews.

Most party boats are sailing for bluefish and not fishing specifically for albacore and bonito. Try to ascertain beforehand whether or not the boat will be engaged in chumming on the more offshore grounds of the New York Bight.

During the last few years, jigging for bluefish without the aid of chum on the inshore grounds of the Bight has become very popular. Here I am referring to such areas as the "Tin Can Grounds," Shrewsbury Rocks, and the Cedars off of Sandy Hook. While this is effective for blues, your chances for albacore and bonito are slim. If the boat you pick will be chumming on the offshore areas of the Bight, such as the Cholera Banks, Mudhole, HA Buoy or the Klondike—get on that boat fast!

Chartering a boat for albies and bones is superb. The small number of anglers aboard will keep tangles and other related forms of chaos and confusion to a minimum. As most charter boats troll for albies and bones, inform the captain beforehand (when you book the boat, preferably) that your party wants to chum. Trolling for them is very effective, but is not as much fun or sporting as taking them on light line with just a half-ounce shot on it. The heavier tackle and weights employed in trolling will take a lot of sport out of a fish's fight. If you own a boat, so much the better. Get yourself four, five-gallon cans of bunker chum and a five-gallon can of spearing. Mix the chum with sea water until you get a soup-like consistency. Liberally lace the chum slick with handfuls of spearing. Above all, keep ladling the goo overboard at a regular rate, taking care never to interrupt the procedure. The rate at which you chum will depend on the wind and tide conditions encountered.

Jigging for albacore and bonito in a chumming situation is also a very effective technique. The best lures for this are Ava-27's, Acme Kastmasters, Luhr Jensen Krocodile spoons and Hopkins Jigs. In fact, it is a safe bet to say that any kind of chrome-plated lure will be effective on the "Dynamic Duo" at one time or another. Bananas and similar-type lures, which work wonders on bluefish, do not work with albacore and bonito. The favorite lure of fishermen down at Sheepshead Bay is the 2.02 Vi-Ke jig, manufactured by Bridgeport. Unfortunately, this lure comes fitted with a treble hook, which is strictly a nuisance. You should replace this with an O'Shaughnessy Tuna Hook in the 2/0 or 1/0 size. You can purchase the Vi-Ke already rigged with the single hook at Mike's Tackle Shop on Emmons Avenue, Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn, right across the street from the party boat piers. To my knowledge, this establishment is the only place that carries the Vi-Kes pre-rigged in the proper manner.

Cast or drop your jig to the bottom. Attempt to place your cast in a manner which will ensure that the lure is moving through the slick for the better part of the retrieve. As soon as your lure hits bottom, turn that handle as fast as possible. That's jigging in a nutshell.

Once you gain a respectable level of competency with the "Dynamic Duo," employing the more orthodox methods explained here, you may elect to try some ultra-light angling for them. Although many will argue that this is impractical, it can be done provided you use some common sense. First of all, unless your idea of fun is to make a lot of enemies fast and to make life miserable for the mates, do not attempt this on a party boat; only do this on a charter or private vessel. Secondly, expect to lose a lot of fish, snap lines, strip reels, and possibly bust up some tackle. If this hasn't scared you off by now, read on. You will be using the same methods already mentioned. Only your tackle will be different. You can use bait-casting reels such as the Penn 930 Level Matic or Garcia Ambassadeur matched with "popping" type bait casting rod. Spinning reels in the class of the Garcia 300, or Shakespeare 2410 are ideal when combined with a light saltwater or freshwater spinning rod that balances properly with the reel. Lines used are in the six to twelve pound test category. Although this may not seem practical, it can provide you with the ultimate thrill to be had with ultra-light tackle.

The IGFA only recently added albacore and bonito to their list of officially-recognized game fish. Therefore, especially more so in the case of bonito, many line-class record slots are either vacant or low enough to make breaking an IGFA record feasible. Check a copy of "World Record Marine Fishes" put out by the IGFA for the present records. Last year a friend of mine ate a bonito that would have broken the existing IGFA twelve pound test record for the species. Unfortunately, he wasn't aware of the possibility at the time and, therefore, neglected to weigh the fish in. To all you folks out there itching to get your name in the record book, here's an opportunity. But please, don't repeat the above!

So get out there and take a shot at the best light tackle game fishing the New York Bight has to offer. Don't dilly-dally; by Columbus Day it will all be over.

THANK GOD FOR SNAPPERS!

(Continued from page 20.)

method with pound test line from two to six and is especially acceptable during the month of September. At this time, these baby choppers can reach almost a pound. Small spoon lures or miniature bucktails become appetizing in place of natural baits. Sidewinders, Johnson Silver Sprites, Kastmasters, Mini-Daredevles and Al's Goldfish lures are readily taken as if the adolescent fish were mature bluefish.

For salty flyrodders, these tiny toothy critters are dynamite on light trout rods. A sinking fly line will carry a streamer well below the water surface where the snappers can assault the imitation. White feathers or deer hair and Mylar strips, fastened onto a #6 hook is super effective. For added attraction, pink or fluorescent floss, wound about the hook's shank builds the fly's body area, giving it a third dimension. Mickey Finns, with their orange and black coloration, or Grey Ghost streamers are primary flies for this period. That seven-and-a-half foot fly rod, which was put to rest back in June to await next year's trout season, will receive one heck of a workout from a day's fishing with these miniature blues of ten to twelve inches. If you think a trout of similar size fights hard when fly hooked, try a mini-alligator.

From youngsters to oldsters, snappers are a welcome species. There is never a dull moment and usually fishing activity becomes a family affair. All I can say is thank God for giving us snappers. From tiny, toothy tots come bold, belligerent bluefish.

PINS & PLASTIC

by H.C. Siddall, Jr.

There are in this world many items and materials serving in capacities for which they were not originally intended. In the realm of fishing, two of these that come to mind are the clothespins on big game outriggers, and that plumber's friend, PVC pipe, so often encountered on beach, boat, and buggy, in the form of sand spikes and rod holders.

Another gadget of purely domestic background that deserves a second look is the diaper pin. For the benefit of those who are single, and/or without issue, the diaper pin is an overgrown safety pin designed to anchor the uniform of the day of our pre-potty juvenile population. This apparently simple object is possessed of many virtues that do not meet the eye, but which combine to make it as useful on the beach or jetty as it is in the nursery. It has, for instance, an oversized, tough plastic catch, so as not to come undone accidently, thus perforating a tender infant bottom; it is fashioned of stainless steel, so that it cannot rust in the presence of caustic fumes and vapors; it is large and simple enough to be operated easily, even by those with two hands full of thumbs, and this in the dark if necessary. It is also cheap. These are all qualities that will endear this mothers' little helper to the salt-water fisherman.

With a few of these little devices, you will find it possible—within the obvious limitations of size and weight—to clip or pin almost anything to almost anything else. A sand spike thus secured, rides neatly on a rod guide or belt loop. Your gaff, likewise, or from the strap on your surf bag. Hang your bait bucket from whatever part of your gear is least likely to become contaminated by the contents thereof. Your lunch bag might be affixed to your own person, taking care that you utilize some part of your clothing for the purpose, and not your own hide. The possibilities are endless.

One word of caution: if you do a great deal of night fishing, or are inclined to be somewhat chicken, you might want to take a file to the very sharp points before using. I never bothered to do so, and have a few scars to prove it.

Handy, secure, and rustproof, a half-dozen diaper pins at sixty-nine cents, total, might turn out to be the best bargain in your tackle box.

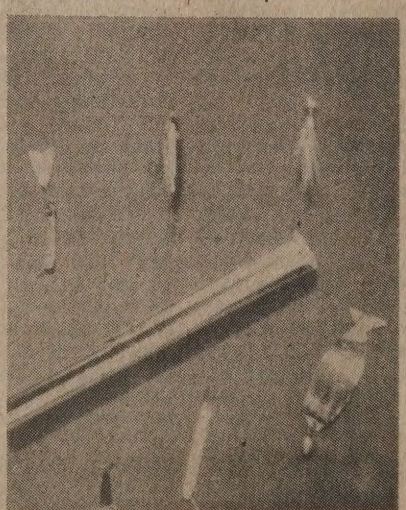
I know—this is all very interesting, you say, but any fisherman

Clips described in text can hold many kinds of gear.

worthy of the name is more interested in catching fish than toting gear? Very well, then, how's about the following gimmick?

It has become the fashion for many fishermen to add a touch of flash or glitter to favorite lures that have become somewhat lackluster after long and faithful service. The idea is a sound one. There is no question but that a few sprigs of Mylar tinsel will add immeasurably to the visibility and attractive powers of almost anything presented to top or shallow feeders. Mylar, however, can sometimes be hard to come by, and the choices of size and quantity are likely to be rather limited. Fortunately, there are other ways to brighten up the ocean.

Somewhere on the premises of



Mylar adds flash to lures.

every paint and wallpaper store, you are likely to find a neat little four-sided rack displaying rolls of a plastic sheeting called Con-Tact. Look over the myriad colors and multiform designs, and with luck, you will find one or more rolls of plain, brilliant, unadorned chrome. Plunk down a few pennies for a yard of this, and you will have purchased what just might turn out to be a major new secret weapon in your fishing arsenal.

As advertised, the stuff is waterproof, self-adhesive, and surprisingly durable. Cut it to shape, peel off the backing, and it can be applied to almost anything in the box that needs brightening: plugs, jigs, spoon, or whatever. Its own adhesive is probably adequate for most of these applications, but being of a worrisome nature, I have lately taken to spreading a little epoxy under the material, and coating the finished job with clear urethane for permanence.

This shiny plastic has proven to be more versatile than I could possibly have hoped. I discovered, for instance, that if I cut two pieces, perhaps a foot square, peeled off their backing and pressed the adhesive surfaces together, I then had a flexible sheet of material—brilliant chrome on both sides—that could be trimmed with a pair of scissors into any shape, wild or sensible, that came to mind and simply hung upon the hook or hooks or any plug, jig, spoon, or bait rig. Talk about "matching the match!" If it's a sand eel you want, cut it long and skinny; a mullet, cut off perhaps six inches, and make it a little wider; a bunker, somewhat longer than that, and deeper bodied. Affix to these shapes nothing more than a proper hook and an appropriate egg sinker, and you will have created an instant lure—probably more brilliant than anything you could buy in any tackle shop. The chrome finish on this stuff will outshine the front bumper of a brand new Mercedes.

Nobody ever made any claims for miraculous durability when it is used in this manner. A couple or three bluefish hits will reduce it to shreds or tear it off altogether. But who cares? At a fraction of a cent per throw, you can afford to live it up a little and hook on a fresh piece. Even so, a couple yards will probably last a whole season.

If maximum flash per dollar is what you are looking for, just keep in mind that all that glitters is not Mylar. It just might be Con-Tact.

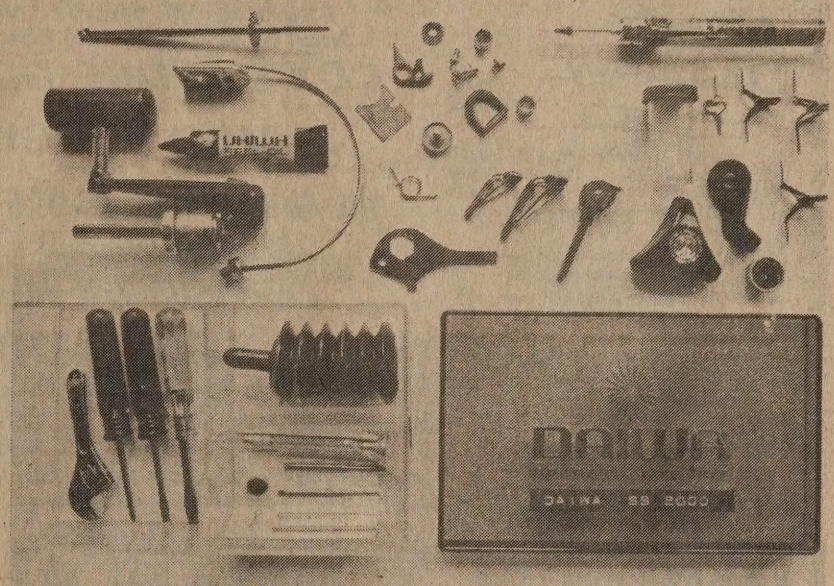
SPARE PARTS

by Dan & Ginny McKain

Despite the superb craftsmanship by most present day tackle makers, equipment breakdown is far from unusual. It is, normally, something that the angler did or did not do that causes the problem. But when trouble strikes miles from the nearest tackle shop or repair station, unless you are prepared for the emergency, your trip could well be ruined. The answer is, in many cases, a good spare parts kit.

Prior to an attempt at a world record channel bass on six pound test line, John Liva, Shane Curtis and Tim Reed at Daiwa's Hanover, Md. facility were sought out for their help and advice. In addition to a short course in what makes a spinning reel function and how to take one apart if a malfunction should occur, the best bit of information given was to always take a spare parts kit with you no matter what brand of reel you plan to use.

Since we were to rely on the Daiwa SS 2000 series spinning reels, it stood to reason that those parts would make up the majority of our extra parts. Additionally, they recommended some necessary tools and lubricants that might be needed.



A "stick" type oiler with the needle point for reaching those hard to get at places, and a squeeze tube of lithium "Blue" grease, along with a small tube of reel oil are important. Two sets of screwdrivers: one, short-handled with both Phillips and minus blades and the other a jeweler's set with the same blades and a reamer or point blade are carried. A small crescent wrench and an all-purpose tool issued by the reel maker complete the tools.

Spare parts that have nothing to do with the reel itself are carried because the rod may get damaged, too. For this you need a stick of ferrule cement, a tube of super glue, assorted rod tips and line guides. Why try to make do with a bent paper clip when, with a little forethought, you can have the real thing?

Next comes the "reel" reason for the spare parts kit. The largest item is the handle assembly. Then comes the main shaft and the bail, bail holder screw and balancer. Other parts in our kit include an anti-reverse claw, a bail spring, bail spring cover, assorted screws; nuts and a set of washers. One very important item on any reel is its drag system.

Because of this, we carry a complete set along in the kit. This includes the drag knob, drag washer retainer, and a full set of drag washers. You never know when that unexpectedly large fish may strip off, not only all your line, but foul up the drag system, too. The ocean is a very unforgiving place...so be prepared for anything.

With all this bother you might just ask why we don't simply carry an extra reel. Well, we do, but when you fish two or more reels it pays to have the spare parts along to put one back in service as soon as possible.

The next problem that arises is now that you have assembled all the spare parts and tools—what do you do with them? Of course, the answer is to put them in a watertight box small enough to take with you without being in the way too much.

Some manufacturers actually have a kit that you can purchase that includes the box with room enough for extra parts. If this isn't available, then head for your local tackle shop again and see what he stocks. One of the better ones that we have found is made by Plano.

It measures only 6½"x4"x2" and has double-sided compartments. The box is known as a "Mini-magnum pocket pak," Model 3212. Some slight modifications will have to be made to accommodate the larger parts, but this involves only a few minutes work.

Now that you have gone this far, how do you use what you have? **Do not attempt to disassemble a reel yourself without some prior instruction!** Today's reels are very complicated pieces of machinery. The instruction manual that comes with your reel shows what you can do as far as lubrication under normal conditions. Many fishermen do not, however, fish under normal conditions! So, the next best thing is to hike yourself down to the friendly neighborhood tackle shop at which you do business.

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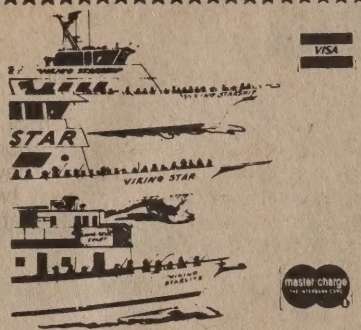

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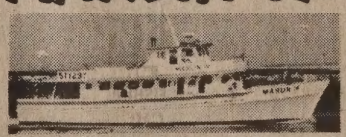

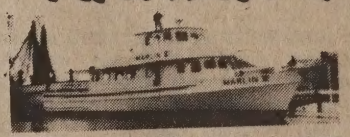

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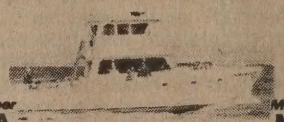

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FIGHTING CHAIR: LATE DELIVERY

(Continued from page 5.)

best, a hopeless case and we are helpless to do anything about the situation.

But it itsn't fair, either, to ask our readers to bear the burden of a problem that is ours. So as a solution, we are extending the subscriptions of ALL our subscribers for one month to make up for issues that may have arrived late. We expect to be doing our own printing within the next two weeks, at which time we will be able to go back to the Tuesday mail date, which will alleviate the problem. So please don't get upset—we're doing all we can!

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MONTAUK ★ BEST BET ★ BLUEFISH

At the time our Fishing Reports were made Montauk was still in the process of recovering from the winds of Hurricane David and the winds that were clocked at gusts up to 80 miles per hour at the Lighthouse. The residual effects were both good and bad. Heavy seas seem to have upset the bottom feeding species most, and on Friday and Saturday the fluke and porgy fishing was almost non-existent. The water was still a murky brown around the Point on the weekend, but it should have cleared up by early this week and allowed the bottom fishing to come back to normal. The murky water also seems to have scattered the inshore bluefish, but the storm set off a firecracker at Cartwright and the fish there has been fantastic since Friday. The fish are real "gorillagators" with many approaching 20 lbs. As for the fantastic fishing for mini-giant tuna and schoolies that Montauk was having before the big blow, the verdict wasn't in yet as to what effect the storm had on it.

Michael and Barbara Maizaka with a 7 lb. fluke taken from a Gone Fishing Marina rental boat at Outer Shagwong.

This 10 lb. fluke was decked on the "Viking Star" by Peter Montaldo.

Captain John DeMaio of the charterboat **Vivienne** called to tell us that the action at Cartwright was great the day after the storm. On Friday, his charter took over 400 lbs. of fish on a half-day trip, all on Ava diamond jigs. The giant blues averaged 10 lbs. and a few almost hit the 20 lb. mark. Saturday's score was almost a duplicate of Friday's except for the one bluefish that was mutilated by a shark and was almost cut in half.

Henry Colombi of the **Star Island Yacht Club** said that he didn't know yet what effect the big storm had on the tuna fishing, but before David came on the scene the fishing was great off Block Island. Last weekend 26 mini-giants were weighed in at the sportfishing center, several of which were taken on Ava diamond jigs. The tuna were feeding on sand eels, making it very difficult to get them to take a bait or trolled lure. It seems that a couple of fishermen squidding with diamond jigs to catch some live bait accidently hooked into giant tuna, and after awhile everyone tried this unusual technique for taking giants. But as a result of the light tackle necessary for jigging, it is estimated that only one tuna was actually landed for every ten that broke off or stripped a reel clean. One of those who was successful was Eileen Friedman who took a 122 lb. bluefin on an Ava diamond jig while fishing from the boat "Eddie's

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Phil, Stu and Jerry from the state of Wisconsin display over 300 lbs. of blues, fluke, porgies, bonito and two large bass, all caught on the charter boat VIVIENNE. Blues and bass were taken on Avas 47s.

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Mink." Two tuna were weighed in on Tuesday: a 185 lb. fish taken by Bill Bock, Bill Herbert and Ken Willmer on the "My Pal" and a 285 lber. nailed by the "Salmar." Both fish were taken on bait. Henry said that the bluefishing was great at Cartwright on the weekend and the fish are real gorillas in the 15 to 20 lb. class. The fish are being massadred on the special Montauk herring rigs fished near the bottom, and Henry said that he has a large supply on hand of the hard-to-get "Henry's Candy Cartwright Herring" that are specially bred and are the perfect size for Cartwright blues.

Captain Warren Hader of the charterboat **Devilfish** was on one of his special day-and-a-half Block Island trips that he started running this year that seems to be catching on. The special package consists of an afternoon half-day inshore charter immediately followed by a full day offshore trip. Leaving Montauk about Noon, the afternoon trip is for bluefish, striped bass and weakfish with the boat making various stops along the way to Block Island, where the boat spends the night and the fishermen aboard have a taste of the Block Island night life. The big advantage to this special is that the next morning you are already almost a two hour ride from Montauk and that much closer to offshore fishing grounds that are usually out of range of a one-day trip, like the Dumping Grounds, etc. Warren told us before leaving that Captain Paul Forsberg of the Viking Fishing Fleet

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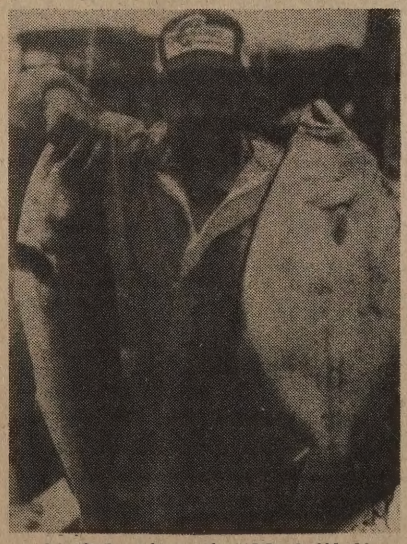

Al Schaefer of "Modell's" Department Stores is framed here by an 8 lb. blue and an 8 lb. fluke taken aboard the Eva-Lou II from Star Island Marina.

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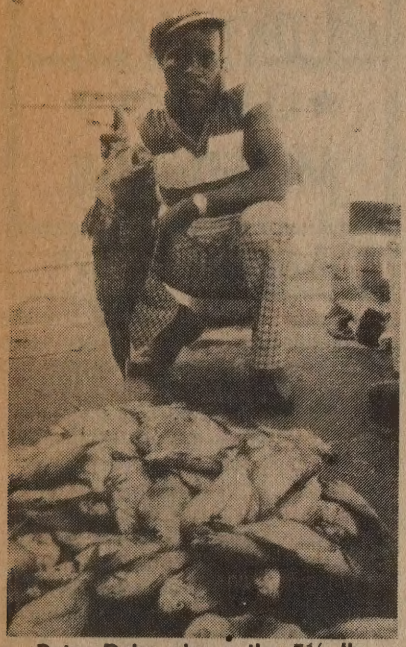
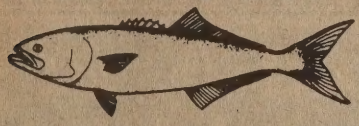


Peter Daley shows the 5½ lb. sea bass he caught along with 80 porgies on a recent trip aboard the "Viking Starlite.



tipped him off that there was a large school of super-giant bluefin tuna feeding out at Coxes Ledge and that was where he was heading. For more info on these Block Island trips, give Warren a call at (516) 668-3343.

Frieda at **Cove Marina** reported that the one boat that went out on Friday only had a single porgy to show for its efforts. She also said that several fluke fishermen who know what they're doing and normally make impressive scores, came back with empty fish boxes. But by Saturday, the seas had calmed down considerably and the waters were beginning to clear up.

Maureen at **Gone Fishing Marina** reported that the full moon striped bass fishing started picking up again on Saturday night. Best action has been on live eels drifted on the bottom around the Great Eastern area during outgoing water. Gil Webber took 3 bass from 20-25 lbs. on Saturday night and Mike Macchiarolli of Huntington had 3 bass to 30 lbs. Maureen reported that the boats fishing Cartwright with herring and diamond jigging were doing a good number on big fish, but the storm must have really shook up the bottom because the fluke and the porgy fishing went completely dead. On Friday, one expert porgy fisherman was only able to nail four measly fish. But the water was starting to clear and the fish showed signs of recovering on the weekend.

On the waterfront, Sheepshead Bay

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Bob Grund, Ken Nober, Roy Christen, Roy Haase, Tim Hagerty and Joe Russo with a white marlin landed on the "Modar II."

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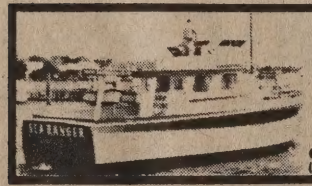

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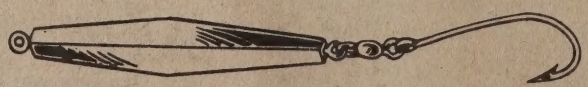

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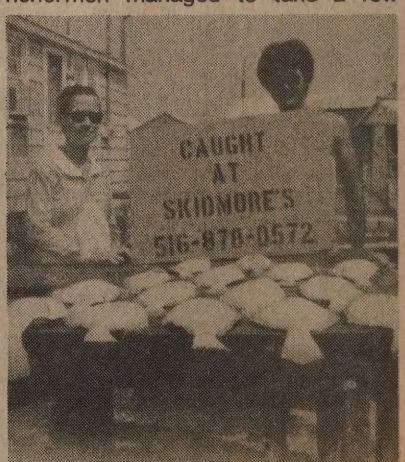
Mickey at **Altenkirch Tackle** reported that the fishing was good just before Hurricane David and showed signs of bouncing right back on the weekend. Plenty of big bluefish were being trolled right outside of Shinnecock Inlet and both marlin and bluefin tuna were being taken in 140' of water southeast of the Inlet. Plenty of snappers being taken in Shinnecock Canal by the shore-bound fishermen and crabs are all over the bay. Although the fluke have been scarce, they should start moving through the inlet soon which usually provides some of the best fluke fishing of the year.

HAMPTON BAYS

Fran at **Corr's Fishing Station** also had one boat out on Friday that took 8 fluke in the East Channel by Shinnecock Inlet during incoming water. Fran said that you could almost walk on the snappers they're so thick, and before the storm the flounder fishing was off to a good start west of the Ponquogue Bridge. Some 3 lb. bluefish were being taken on the inlet on the weekend and larger blues are being taken right outside.

MORICHES BAY

Jim DeVita at **Skidmore's Fishing Station** reported he had one boat out on Friday just after David and the fishermen managed to take a few



Kenny and Lyn Chin with 15 fluke up to 3½ lbs. taken at buoys 38 and 39 on killies. Photo courtesy of Skidmore's Fishing Station.

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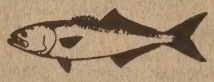

DIRECTIONS: Take Southern State Pkwy. to Exit 40 Robert Moses Causeway, South five miles to the Captree Boat Basin Exit.

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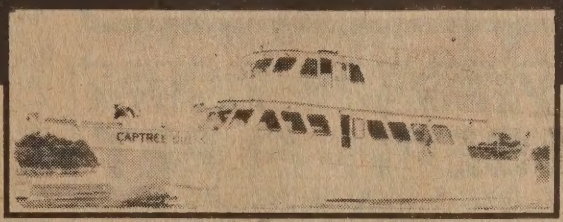

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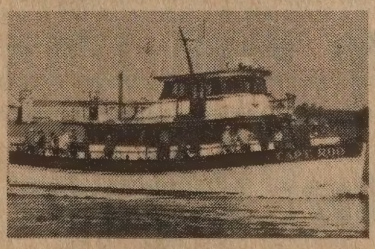

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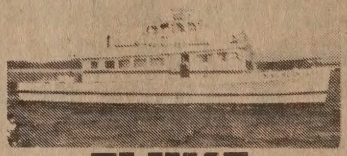

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OAKDALE

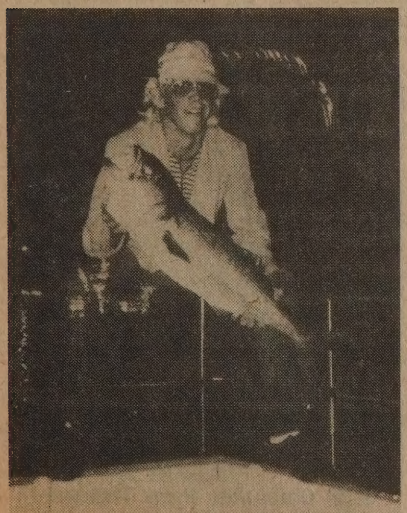
John of **J&R Sports Center** knew that good fishing for small weakfish continued off of Heckscher on the weekend. This action is all on squid strips fished on high hook rigs. John had no offshore news due to the big heave left by David.

BAY SHORE

Smokey's Bait and Tackle tells us prior to the storm there was very good blackfishing being done at the Kismet Reef, fish up to 6 lbs. on fiddlers. Excellent crabbing and snapper fishing all throughout the bay. Lots of 2-3 lb. weaks between buoys 28 and 29 at Heckscher on squid, sand worms or jelly worms. Still some fluke in West Channel and at Ocean Beach. That's on sand eel and squid strip combos. Loads of porgies and a fair run of blowfish in West Channel with some kingfish mixed in. Bluefishing was super good on Friday night just offshore of the net in 80' of water and the Captree Fleet is now fishing from there through Patchogue.

CAPTREE

Tropical storm David left most of the Captree boats tied to the dock the latter part of last week. By Friday night, Captain Charlie Kennedy of the **Joseph Fleet** reported



Brian Pues displays the 16 lb. chopper he landed on a night trip aboard the "Captree Queen II."

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This nice catch of blues and one bonito was made S.E. of Moriches Inlet on diamond jigs by Don Seward, Kevin O'Conner, and Donald Thompson. Subscriber photo.

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bluefishing was excellent south of Patchogue, a little further off the beach than before the storm. A body of fish was found in 105' of water, most of the fish running 8-16 lbs. Twenty-three fares decked over 200 of the big choppers Friday PM. Before the storm, Captain Speedy Hubert reported fast action both Monday and Tuesday nights for fish running 7-12 lbs. This action was also off of Patchogue. While Speedy reported the fluking continued slow, many captains are looking for David's effects to concentrate the fluke in the inlet where some fast fishing should be had for a couple of weeks. Mrs. Carl Bauer of the open boat **Capt. Whitaker** reported that her husband has begun blackfishing and will continue doing so until flounder time.

BABYLON

Dolores at **Augie's Bait and Tackle** tells us trolllers are presently picking oceanic and green bonito in 100-120' of water. Heckscher has been produicing weakfish after the storm on hi-lo rigs and squid strips on the hook for weaks to 3 lbs. RUMORS of striped bass on the beaches, but none have been weighed in this week. Snappers and blue claw crabs are very heavy at the town dock. Blues being caught now off Point O'Woods in 80' of water on umbrellas and by chummers.

Bill at **Babylon Fishing Station** tells us 32 blackfish up to 7 lbs. were taken by one customer who fished the Kismet Reef using cut up sand crabs and blue claw crabs. A few flounder have been showing in the deeper holes and at Sore Thumb. Weaks to 5 lbs. but mostly 1-2½ lb. specimens are being taken just east of the Captree Bridge on squid strips. A few fluke, and decent catches of kings and porgies being made at the CG Station. Snappers abundant on killies. Bill says it's a real fall mixed bag out there.

John Galantini, Ryan Thomas, and James Wiegman with some of the 26 weaks up to 13 lbs. that they caught on Tri-Fin Whiptails at Diamond Pt. Subscriber photo.

SOUTH SHORE BAYS

★ BEST BET ★
MIXED BAG

SEAFORD

Lon Wanser Bait & Tackle tells of snappers all over the bay on small spearing and small tins. The crabbing remains good. Lots of porgies in the bay also in deep water on clam and worm. Blackfish at the bridges on fiddlers and green crabs. Prior to the storm, fluke had been taken at Jones Inlet again by several customers drifting sand eels at short beach. One customer came in with 16 flounder taken from the area of the 3rd Wantagh Friday on sand worms. Weakfish at the bridges on live snappers or on whole sand worms fished on a 3' leader tied in 3' off the bottom. A few schoolie bass have been chopped at the 3rd Wantagh on bellies, of which Lon has a fair supply in the freezer. Lon also says there's a good mixed bag to be had today.

Captain Eddie's Fishing Station reports snappers are plentiful whereever there is water. Sand porgies being caught in Massapequa Cove and the same area has been producing weaks to 5 lbs. which are hitting fluke rigs. The weaks are also going after live snapper bait. A few fluke have been picked at the west side of the 3rd Wantagh. Plenty of blue claw crabs around and just a couple of small flounder have been lifted ou out of the water.

John at **Pop's Fishing Station** says crabbing remains great as does the snapper action. Larger sized porgies are being taken at Four Corners and Massapequa Cove. A few decent size fluke have been pulled from the rock pile at Haunts Creek and on either side of the 3rd bridge. Some flounder have been taken on sand worms just to the southwest of Squaw Island in the main channel. High hook for the week on flounder was 13 fish up to 1¼ lbs. There are also eels in the State Channel.

BELLMORE

Scott at **Merrick Tackle** tells us flounder are starting to be picked in slightly larger numbers on worms and clam and chum at the hole in Swifts Creek and around the Meadowbrook Bridge area. Blackfish are a good item on green crabs at the Meadowbrook pilings.

MERRICK

Jimmy at **Nick's Fishing Station** tells of small porgies and small

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flounder which are being hoisted at Merrick Point and at the Golf Course on worms and clam. A few bass have been taken at the construction barge, Haunts Creek and at the entrance to Short Beach CG station on bunker. Snappers all over the bay.

BALDWIN

Arthur Street Fishing Station tells of loads of crabs in Middle Bay and the Canal. Some bonito at Cholera being chummed with spearing and with spearing as hook bait also.

These anglers took a pair of makos weighing 106 and 172 lbs. on a recent charter aboard the "Apus." The fish were weighed at Charvin Fishing Station.

WEST END SOUTH SHORE
★BEST BET★
BLUEFISH

FREEPORT

The **Blue Fin Fleet** reports Friday's bluefish charter had picky pickings due to the storm, but Capt. Sy Karlin says the schools should build again once the waters settle down. Blues during the week otherwise have been running up to 12 lbs., averaging in the 3-6 lb. range.

Captain Joe Long of the charter boat **Nite Owl** tells us on a Canyon trip early in the week the charter

This party, headed by Al Levenberg, trolled up a mess of blues at the N.B. buoy aboard the charter boat, "Shalidon."

bagged 4 good sized yellowfin tuna. Tuna Joe does it again.

The **Capt. Hall** says prior to the storm his fares were averaging 4-5 fluke apiece but that he has now switched over to flounder as his prime fall target.

The **Starstream II** reports Wed.'s bluefishing saw a slow pick all day long which built up late in the day to the point where there were always 3-8 fish on at a time. This was at Cholera. Wednesday night's trip saw 125 choppers bouncing on the deck for 12 fares. This was at Cholera also. Day trips are now all bait and chum also. These fish have been running to 5 lbs. with an occasional 10 lber. and a few big bonito mixed in.

The **Aloma II** called to tell us that they are now switching to flounder and there is evidence of plenty of the fall flatties in the bay.

The **Capt. Al** tells us Wednesday's bluefishing was excellent at Cholera. Art Douglas of Levittown had 22 blues. Harry Rossiter of Yonkers bagged 18. Fish were mostly 4-6 lbers. with a few up to 12 lbs., all on bait. A few bonito were mixed in. Ambrose Ridge has been producing too. There is a good body of fish in the Bight. Al says there should be a very good Sept. and Oct. as far as blues are concerned.

The Capt. Lou III reports Friday saw good flounder catches and some of Capt. Mike's pet spots. Customers also caught sea bass and a few fluke as well. Mike says it looks like a strong fall mixed bag coming up.

Captain Tony on the **Miss Freeport II** called to say the boat will now be sailing for flounder at 10AM Monday thru Friday.

Mark's Bait and Tackle reports Geo. Buzzetta on his boat My Judy with crew of Mark, Danny, Sal and Benny bagged a 100 lb. mako in 110' of water fishing S.E. of Jones in 8' seas. This was the first mako for the boat. Tom Demura and his buddy Howie on George's boat later in the week using live snappers and sand worm took a 6½ lb. fluke and an 8½ lb. weakfish on an ebbing tide.

Anthony's Fishing Station tells us flounder catches were decent early in the week in the Fundy Bridge area. Flounder were up to 2 lbs., hitting blood and sand worms. Snappers and sand porgies are abundant in the bay.

Bob at **Hook, Line and Sinker Bait and Tackle** says that 6 miles north of the HA, blues, albies and skippies are being trolled up. Flounder being caught in Swift and Long Creeks, Fundy Bay and at the Meadowbrook Bridge on sand worms. Porgies and snappers all over the bay and lots of blue claw crabs at the piling.

Lou Stalker at **Charvin Fishing Station** says Wed. before the storm there was good bluefishing at Cholera for the head and private boats on mixed fish. Fluking remains good at Ambrose. Local sand porgies and blue claw crabs have afforded good action. All of the above was through Wednesday, prior to the blow. There have also been weaks at the bridges and a 3 lb. blackfish was hung by one customer using green crabs at the Meadowbrook.

The Freeport Boatmen's Association tells us that on Labor Day the **Nite Owl II** sailed its second annual wreck trip for the Double T Fishng Club at a wreck near the Virginia and totaled 54 cod in the 20-30 lb. class. The pool went to Artie Herschat with a 31 lber. Second place went to R. Donovan with a 24

This fine catch of 7 tuna up to 45 lbs. was taken out of Jones Inlet aboard the boat Playmate III. Photo courtesy of Charvin Fishing Station.

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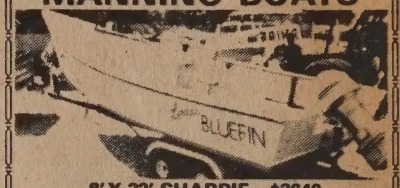

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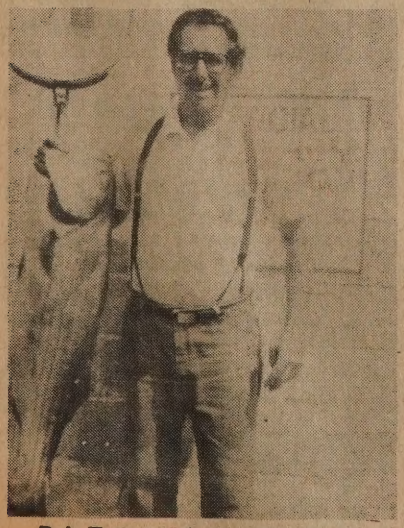
Part of a catch of 11 slammer blues made by Mike Coslett, Mike Decuffa, Dom Cebone, John Funichello and Paul Coslett. The fish, which ranged from 9 to 15 lbs., were taken at Stepping Stone Light on bunker chunks. Photo courtesy of Jack's Bait and Tackle.



Bob Tota used an umbrella rig to take this 25 lb. 12 oz. striper at Eaton's Neck. The bass was weighed in at Four Winds Tackle.

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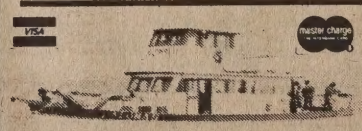

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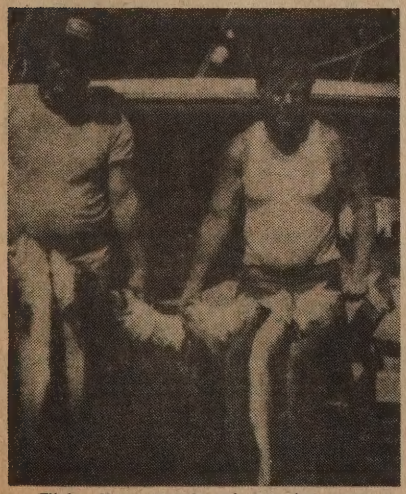
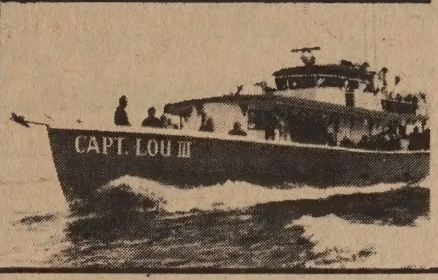
★FREEPORT★

Debra and Jim Curley with their 74½ lb. white marlin taken south of Shinnecock in 120' of water. Action took place aboard the boat Island Girl.



This fine catch of weaks was made at buoy 11 by Ed Braun and Lenny "The Phantom." The fish were checked in at the Sportsman Center in Medford.

CAPT. LOU III



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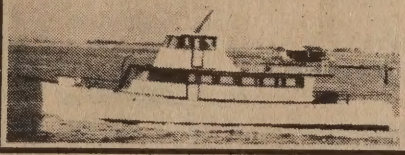

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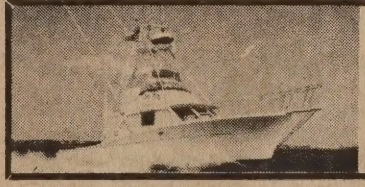

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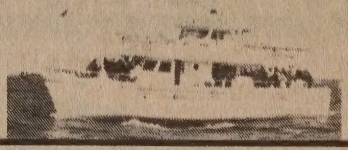

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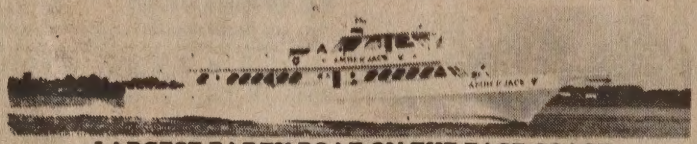

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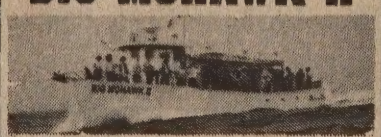

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SHEEPSHEAD BAY • PIER 7

PILOT II

★6AM DAILY★

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NITE BLUES 5-10PM • WED./SUN.

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NEW ROCHELLE

★BLUEFISH★

Klondike VII

SAILS 7AM DAILY

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100' Alum. Boat • Galley • Heated Rails & Cabin

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grounds in recent weeks resumed again after the ocean settled down from David's turmoil.

Lou Latorgia and friends display a nice catch of weaks, blues, and bonito. The catch was made aboard the charter boat "Kim" on trolled umbrellas.

lb. cod. High hook was Steve Kierney. The **Norseman II** loaded up at the Farms on big bluefish Labor Day and Tuesday sailed again with a charter for the Freeport Police and had a good catch of big fluke at Ambrose. The whole Association fleet was out on Saturday when we called.

POINT LOOKOUT

At **Ed's Fishing Station** we were told that boats had a smattering of fluke over the weekend. Scores ran up to 6 fish per boat. Blackfish were taken at the Meadowbrook and Long Creek Bridges. This was on fiddlers and the fish ran up to 2 lbs. Sand porgies and sea bass provided some action on worms and clams between buoys 14 and 20.

The word from **Scotty's Fishing Station** was that there are a few fluke around, plenty of porgies and flounder beginning to make an appearance. We were also told that the fluking and weakfishing that had been going on at the Tin Can

ISLAND PARK

Beckman's Tackle reported that blackfish are starting and are being taken on fiddler crabs. Albacore and bonito, along with blues at Cholera, the Farms and 17 Fathoms. A tip for those looking to do battle with the speedy members of the tuna family: a very small, short-shank tuna hook attached directly to a light monofilament leader of 10 to 20 lb. test. Clam chummers have begun taking some fish at the bridges, but are keeping it quiet for the most part. A few fluke being taken in the channels.

ATLANTIC BEACH

Larry at **Seaman's Bait** tells of PLENTY of sand porgies locally hitting on worms and clam. Snapper abundant and large. There's great blue claw crabbing, scooping them up at the radar pier at the airport, the train trestle and at the bridge. Loads of them. Lots of big weaks have been seen by Larry chasing snappers in Rockaway channel. Quite a few small blues in Rockaway channel and at the JFK radar pier on surface plugs. These are 2-3 lbers. Larry says there will be stripers at the radar pier in about a month.

LONG BEACH

The Sports Marina had little to report since the storm other than some flounder are beginning to show and crabbing continued good.

JAMAICA BAY

Cross Bay Bait and Tackle reported that the north channel bridge has been producing snappers, crabs and sand porgies. At the Marine Parkway Bridge, anglers have begun taking some blackfish.

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3 Coast Guard Inspected Head Boats
32, 38 & 47 Passengers
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Fishing April thru November
★CODFISH★
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SAT. & SUN., thru Nov.
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BAIT & TACKLE INCLUDED!
Charter Dates Available
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oak • teak • mahogany • fir • glues •
marine plywood • fiberglass cloth + resin

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Mike's Bait and Tackle reports bonito and some blues are being picked away at though it was much better prior to the storm. Blackfishing has been very good at Seabright along with a scattering of porgies mixed in. Fluking at Ambrose continued very good right through Wednesday. Friday saw excellent catches of bonito at Ambrose, even better than prior to the big blow.

Captain Estelle Mandel decked this 7½ lb. doormat fluke at Ambrose Channel on her boat, Esta. Subscriber photo.

STATEN ISLAND

Santo's Sport Shop reported that after the storm it was still evident that there are plenty of porgies, snappers and crabs available. Lenny said that it would take a few days before knowing how David affected the local bass, blue and weakfish populations.

PECONICS & GARDINERS
★ BEST BET ★
MIXED BAG

GREENPORT

Art White from **A.P. Bait Shop** reported that Thursday's storm had little effect on the hot bluefish action in the Race and Pigeon Rip. On Friday, the boat Striper, returned to the dock with over 150 choppers; while on Saturday the Nancy Ann returned laden down with blues also. Both catches were made on diamond jigs.

SOUTHOLD

Port of Egypt Fishing Station told us that before David's arrival there was good blackfishing and porgy fishing near the light at Orient and some fine catches of flounder were being made near the fish traps and at Long Beach. Since the storm, Ace reported that one boat fishing clams for porgies at buoy 16 came across a school of weakfish and put 24 fish from 1-4 lbs. in the box.

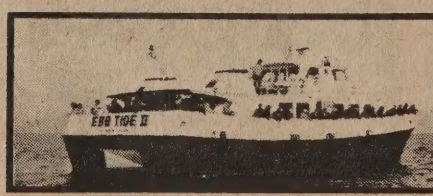
NEW SUFFOLK

Phil Loria of **Capt. Marty's Fishing Station** said that weakfishing which had been good before the storm, improved as things calmed down. The weaks run 2-4 lbs. with kingfish averaging 1½ lbs. mixed in. Squid and worms fished from hi-lo rigs and an anchored boat take most of the fish. Best spot has been Rose's Grove. A few decent porgy scores made at buoy 28, South Race on clams and worms and plenty of snappers still around.

AQUEBOGUE

From **Warren's Bait and Tackle** came word of a nice catch of 30 weakfish up to 3 lbs. and 150 porgies. Fish were taken at Robin's Island on sand worms. Also on Saturday, one boatman stopped by to display a mess of teen-sized blues and one bass that he took trolling off of Horton's Point. Warren thought umbrella rigs were used to make the catch.

★ CITY ISLAND ★



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NORTH SHORE
MID-ISLAND
★ BEST BET ★
BLUEFISH

MT. SINAI HBR.

Ralph's Fishing Station told us that good catches of porgies, blacks and some fluke were the rule before Thursday's storm. Radio chatter indicated that both jiggers and trollers were doing a job on bluefish between buoys 9 and 11. Ralph added that plenty of snappers remain.

PORT JEFFERSON

Tim at **Caraftis Fishing Station** knew of very good bluefishing along the Ledge at buoy 11 on Friday. The fish ran from 2-5 lbs. and excellent scores were made by both jiggers and those trolling umbrella rigs. Timmy said that it looked as if David improved the fishing as far as the

Sue Forster displays her first two blues of the season. They were landed aboard the boat, Flaming II. Subscriber photo.

bluefishing is concerned. On Saturday, some boats returned with loads of small porgies taken on clams and worms from inside the harbor. Bigger porgies along with some blackfish at Oldfield Point and snappers still plentiful in the harbor.

KINGS PARK

OK Bait and Tackle told us that the bluefishing continues very good since Thursday's blow. Lots of fish around in the 2-4 lb. class near the mouth of the river. Fish are being taken casting and trolling mono. Bob

Eric Ambrosio boated this 26 lb. 4 oz. striper at Eaton's Neck. The bass was taken on an umbrella rig. Photo courtesy of Four Winds Tackle.

knew of a few bass taken locally and added that boatmen fishing the obstruction buoy Saturday morning were scoring well with blues on diamond jigs.

NORTHPORT

Tom at **Bowman's Sporting Goods** reported that David's winds seem to have stirred up the bunker which are now present inside the harbor. As a result, he had an unconfirmed report of three 15 lb. blues taken inside Northport Harbor near the Yacht Club. He knew for a fact that one angler took 4 blues from 12-16 lbs. on bunker at Eaton's Neck early Saturday. Some good porgy action off of the harbor dock with bigger fish up to 2 lbs. being taken by boatmen off of Makamah Harbor. Tom suggested the obstruction buoy for diamond jiggers intent on bluefish.

This pool winning 12 lb. weakfish was decked by Moses Prosseo on the City Island open boat "Lucky Star."

HUNTINGTON

George Valentine of **Four Winds Bait and Tackle** noted an upswing in the bluefishing between the obstruction buoy and 11b. Some bigger fish in the 4-10 lb. class are present now and were taken during the day, rather than in the early AM as had been the case before the storm. Friday saw some good scores made by jiggers. A few trollers also scored well. George knew of several big blues in the teens taken inside Lloyd and Cold Spring Harbors on live bunker and on chunks. Blues in the 5-6 lb. class taken on poppers and swimming plugs, both before and after the storm near the Cold Spring Harbor light. Good fishing for sand porgies at Sand City, along with some 2-3 lb. weakfish. George looked over a good catch of blacks made early in the week at Eaton's Neck. The fish, which ran from 4-6 lbs., were taken on fiddler crabs.

Ronnie's Bait and Tackle reported blues up to 5 lbs. inside of Cold Spring Harbor, smaller choppers at Lloyd's Point being taken on Rebels, cast and trolled on mono.

NORTH SHORE WEST END

★ BEST BET ★

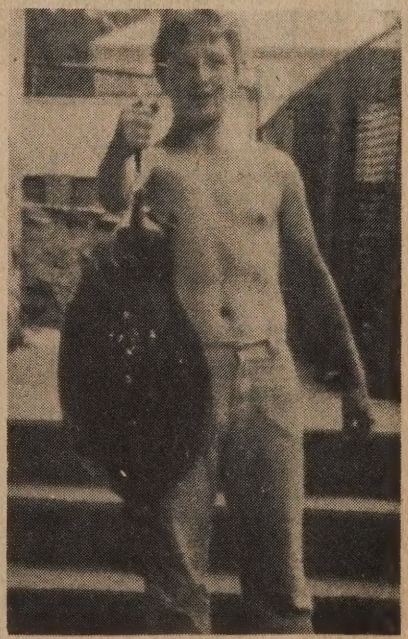
BLUEFISH

COLD SPRING Hbr.

From **Salty's Bait and Tackle** came word of 4-5 lb. blues being taken on bunker chunks in the Harbor. Small porgies also inside near the light on clams and worms. Some bigger fish still taken out in the Sound. A few blacks at Stehli's Beach.

CITY ISLAND

Jack at **Jack's Bait and Tackle** said that the storm did nothing to hurt the bluefishing which continues at Hart's Island, Steppingstone Light and Execution Light. The fish are all big, 9-16 lbs., and are being taken on both live bunker and bunker chunks. Blackfish are beginning to make an appearance, for those using



Joe Tepley hefts the 10½ lb. fluke he took on a sand eel bait at buoy 15, Lloyd's Neck. The doormat was weighed at Jack's Bait and Tackle.

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fiddlers or green crabs and some nice size porgies taken over the weekend from the New Rochelle area. Good action with school bass continues near Execution Light and High and Hart's Island. This fishing has been continuous since the spring and fish are still being taken on Rebels, Bucktails and worms. Many of the fish are shorts, so return them carefully.

SURF REPORT
with Fred Golofaro

As a result of tropical storm David's visit to our area last week, it was very difficult gathering any worthwhile surf info. Hopefully, the storm will have shaken things up in a positive way. The picture should be much clearer by the time we do next week's reports.

We're at that time in September when you should be sure to tote along some blue-colored plugs in your surf bag. A couple of poppers, swimming plugs such as the Atom and Danny and Rebels and RedFins are all good weapons this time of the year. A can of blue spray paint will convert any of these plugs to simulate mullet in seconds. It's often a good idea to carry several assorted colors of spray paint along if you own a buggy.

Following are the sketchy reports I was able to come by.

SOUTH SHORE: EAST END

Tom at **Speck's Bait and Tackle** had nothing to report since Thursday's storm. A big surf and dirty water kept most anglers away from the beach.

SOUTH SHORE: WEST END

Al Scherback called us to report that early last week prior to David's arrival, he used a bunker chunk to take a 14 lb. 1 oz. bluefish at Cedar Beach. The fish was entered in the State Park fishing contest.

At **The Store** in Oak Beach, Hays reported that nothing doing along the beach since the storm, other than surfers reporting the best surfing in four years. As things settle, we should see some improved action along the beaches in the Cedar to Tobay area.

From **Beckman's Tackle Shop** in Island Park, we received word that the storm had already created a small flurry of action with bass and blues in the Point Lookout and Long Beach surf. Eels and swimming plugs took some fish after dark, while poppers and tins accounted for a few fish during the day.

Cross Bay Bait and Tackle reported that Anthony DiBartolo weighed in bluefish of 11¼ and 11¾ along with two weakfish up to 8 lbs. 4 oz. on Wednesday. All the fish were taken from the North Channel Bridge on bunker chunks. No word on any activity since the storm.

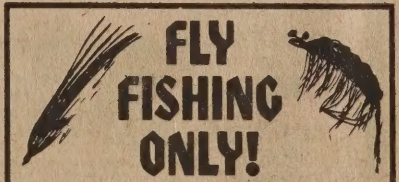
NORTH SHORE: WEST END

From **Jack's Bait and Tackle** in City Island came word that the storm had little effect on the big bluefish being taken mornings and e evenings at Orchard Beach and the City Island bridge. Saturday morning, Jack weighed in a 13¾ lb. blue, along with several in the 10-11 lb. class. All of this action is on bunker chunks. During the height of Thursday's rain and wind, bluefish could be seen tearing into schools of bunker in the vicinity of the bridge. Jack says there are plenty of bunker around and as long as they are here, the big blues will remain.

Surf news was non-existent from the Cold Spring Harbor, Huntington and Northport areas.

NORTH SHORE: EAST END

At **Rocky Point Fishing Stop** we learned that plenty of blues remain in the area for casters. Bigger fish seem to be mixed in more often. This can be explained by the many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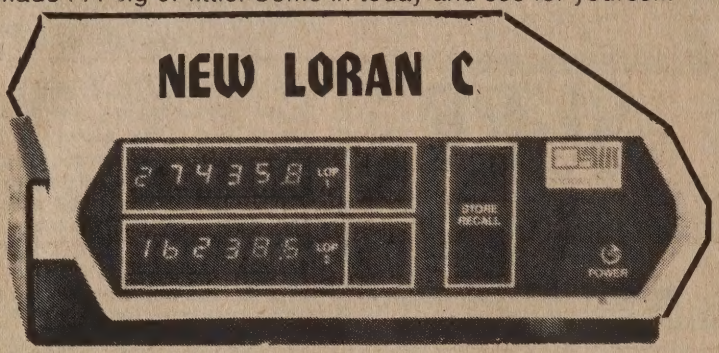

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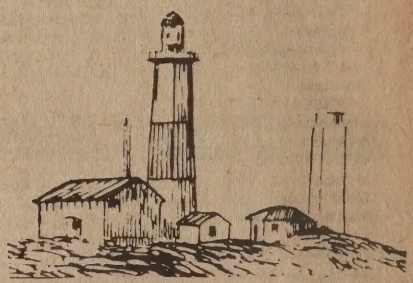
All Types of Chum!!!

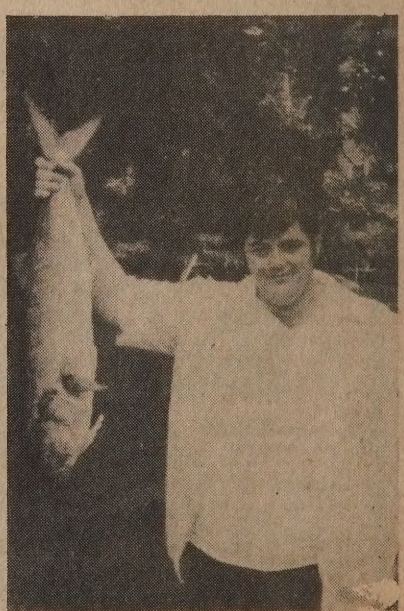
schools of bunker now in the area. One fish was weighed in since the storm, that 11½ lb. blue taken from a local beach on a silver popper.

Further east, **Warren's Bait and Tackle** in Aquebogue told us that as the storm subsided Thursday afternoon, one caster took 3 big bluefish and two bass at Mattituck . He said all the action was on tins and he was restocking his supply of Kastmasters as a result of the big blues. No other word on action in this area since then.

CAPE REPORT

Quite a few big blues up to 16 lbs. being taken along Cape beaches. They are making a nuisance of themselves for those intent on stripers. One angler who managed to avoid the big choppers was Jim Kostas who scored well several times up until Wednesday night. He had several stripers in the 40s, along with a 50, Wednesday, prior to the storm. In the canal, a few small blues and bass being taken on cast bucktails. Bigger blues along with some big weakfish chasing bunker in the west end of the Canal.





Robert Puccio holds aloft the 13½ lb. blue he beached at Centre Island on a mackerel chunk. Subscriber photo.

HIGH TIDE TABLES

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	Breakwater Harbor AM	Breakwater Harbor PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGE-PORT AM	BRIDGE-PORT PM	NEW-PORT AM	NEW-PORT PM	DATE
THUR.	1:54	2:21	2:51	3:24	2:40	3:10	3:47	4:13	6:16	6:45	5:32	5:58	1:49	2:22	9/13
FRI.	2:53	3:19	3:56	4:28	3:39	4:08	4:54	5:18	7:23	7:48	6:37	7:00	2:52	3:22	9/14
SAT.	3:54	4:21	5:01	5:28	4:41	5:07	6:00	6:18	8:21	8:49	7:37	8:00	3:52	4:21	9/15
SUN.	4:56	5:17	6:01	6:23	5:41	6:04	6:55	7:12	9:16	9:40	8:33	8:54	4:49	5:13	9/16
MON.	5:51	6:10	6:51	7:10	6:35	6:53	7:41	7:54	10:03	10:26	9:22	9:41	5:39	6:00	9/17
TUE.	6:39	6:53	7:34	7:50	7:22	7:36	8:21	8:35	10:48	11:10	10:05	10:23	8:24	6:45	9/18
WED.	7:21	7:33	8:11	8:29	8:02	8:17	8:55	9:11	11:29	11:47	10:45	11:03	7:07	7:28	9/19
THUR.	7:59	8:10	8:48	9:04	8:40	8:54	9:30	9:46	–	12:02	11:21	11:39	7:46	8:05	9/20

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES:

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet.....—0 50" is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." —0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6 ½ hours to this figure.

On SANDY HOOK

STATEN ISLAND	+ 0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	— 0 01
Red Bank, Navesink R.I.	+ 0 48
Long Branch	— 0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	— 0 18
Shark River Basin	+ 0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	— 0 12
Seaside Park	— 0 33
Mantoloking Bridge	+ 5 34
TOMS RIVER	+ 4 37
Waretown	+ 2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	— 0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+ 2 33
Beach Haven	+ 1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	— 0 01
Seven Islands	+ 0 12
Graveling Point	+ 1 05
Mullica River	+ 1 55
Grassy Bay	+ 1 08
ABSECON INLET	+ 0 14
Atlantic City Pier	— 0 26
Gt. Egg Harbor Inlet	+ 0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+ 0 46
CORSON INLET	+ 0 09
TOWNESEND INLET	+ 0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+ 0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+ 0 45
Cape May Harbor	— 0 02
Rehoboth Beach	— 0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+ 0 14
SHINNECOCK INLET	— 0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+ 1 25
East Quogue	+ 2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+ 1 18
Indian Reservation	+ 3 05
MORICHES INLET	— 0 56
Smith's Point	+ 3 28
Harts Cove	+ 1 30
Potunck Point	+ 3 35
Mastic Beach	+ 3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	— 0 38
Democrat Point	— 0 38
Coast Guard Station	— 0 19
Fire Island Light	+ 0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+ 3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+ 3 20
Bay Shore	+ 2 23
Babylon	+ 2 12
Amityville	+ 2 21
JONES INLET	— 0 19
Zachs Bay	+ 1 25
Seaford Harbor	+ 2 05
Freeport Creek	+ 0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	— 0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+ 0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	— 0 00
Beach Ch. Bridge	+ 0 38
JFK Airport	+ 0 26

On BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+ 0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+ 0 08
Bayville Bridge	+ 0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+ 0 03
Northport Bay	+ 0 03
Norwalk Islands	+ 0 10
Smithtown Bay	— 0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+ 0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+ 0 03
New Haven Harbor	+ 0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	— 0 08
Herod Point	— 0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+ 0 19
Horton Point	— 0 20
Truman Beach	— 0 42
Falkner Island	— 0 13
Sachem Head	— 0 10
Branford Harbor	— 0 07
New Haven Harbor	— 0 08
Milford Harbor	— 0 07
Stratford	+ 0 27
Shelton	+ 1 36
Black Rock Harbor	— 0 03
Saugatuck River	— 0 01
South Norwalk	+ 0 10
Greens Ledge	— 0 01
Stamford	+ 0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+ 0 06
Greenwich	+ 0 02

On NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+ 0 27
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+ 0 12
Greenport	+ 1 04
Southold	+ 1 43
New Suffolk	+ 2 26
South Jamesport	+ 2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+ 2 33
Noyack Bay	+ 2 05
Sag Harbor	+ 0 59
Gardiners Bay	+ 0 21
Promised Land	— 0 14
Montauk Inlet	— 0 25
Montauk Point	— 1 13
Niantic	+ 1 20
Stonington	— 0 33
Noank, Mystic River	— 0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove	— 0 01
Norwich	+ 0 09
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook jetty	+ 1 10
Lyme	+ 1 24
Essex	+ 1 38
East Haddam	+ 2 41
Higganum Creek	+ 2 54

On WILLETS PT.

Little Neck Bay	— 0 10
Execution Light	— 0 06
Manhasset Bay	— 0 01
Hempstead Harbor	— 0 11
City Island	— 0 03
Rye Beach	— 0 28
Port Chester	— 0 09
Mamaroneck	— 0 08
New Rochelle	— 0 24
Davids Island	— 0 02

On B'WATER HB.

CAPE MAY POINT	— 0 10
Miami Beach	+ 1 17
East Point	+ 0 53
Egg Island Point	+ 0 33
Cape Henlopen	— 0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+ 0 09
Mispillion River Ent.	+ 0 33
St. Jones River Ent.	+ 0 57

On NEW YORK

Jersey City	+ 0 07
Geo. Washington Br.	+ 0 46
Spuyten Duyvil	+ 0 58
Ossining	+ 1 53
Peekskill	+ 2 24
West Point	+ 3 16
Newburg	+ 3 42

On NEWPORT

Sakonnet	— 0 10
Tiverton	+ 0 21
Beavertail Point	— 0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Pt.	+ 0 10
Bristol	+ 0 10
Warren	+ 0 21
Nayatt Point	+ 0 12
Pawtucket	+ 0 21
East Greenwich	+ 0 16
Wickford	+ 0 12
Narragansett Pier	— 0 08
Point Judith Harbor	— 0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+ 0 05
Old Harbor	— 0 14
Watch Hill Point	+ 0 44

SUNRISE/SUNSET

9/3	6:27	7:32
9/8	6:32	7:23
9/13	6:37	7:14
9/18	6:43	7:06
9/23	6/48	6:57

PHASES OF THE MOON

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	2nd Qtr.
9/21	9/29	9/6	9/13

The Original Knight

SOLUNAR TABLES

When To Fish Or Hunt

The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during these times when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour-and-a-half or two hours thereafter, and are in the bold type face. The minor periods are shorter in duration and lighter type.

	AM Minor	AM Major	PM Minor	PM Major
Thurs.	11:35	5:50	11:55	6:15
Fri.	—	6:35	12:30	7:00
Sat.	12:50	7:20	1:15	7:45
Sun.	1:30	8:05	2:00	8:30
Mon.	2:15	8:45	2:45	9:10
Tues.	2:55	9:30	3:35	9:50
Wed.	3:40	10:10	4:05	10:30
Thurs.	4:20	10:45	4:45	11:10

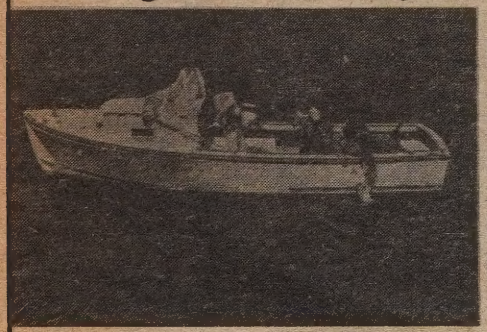
The SISU 22 — The "Pocket Seaboat"

The family boat used by commercial fishermen.

The Sisu 22 is a very serious seaboat. She was designed by one of the top down-East commercial fishing boat designers . . . and her sisterships are used every day by working fishermen. She's a proven, dependable boat.

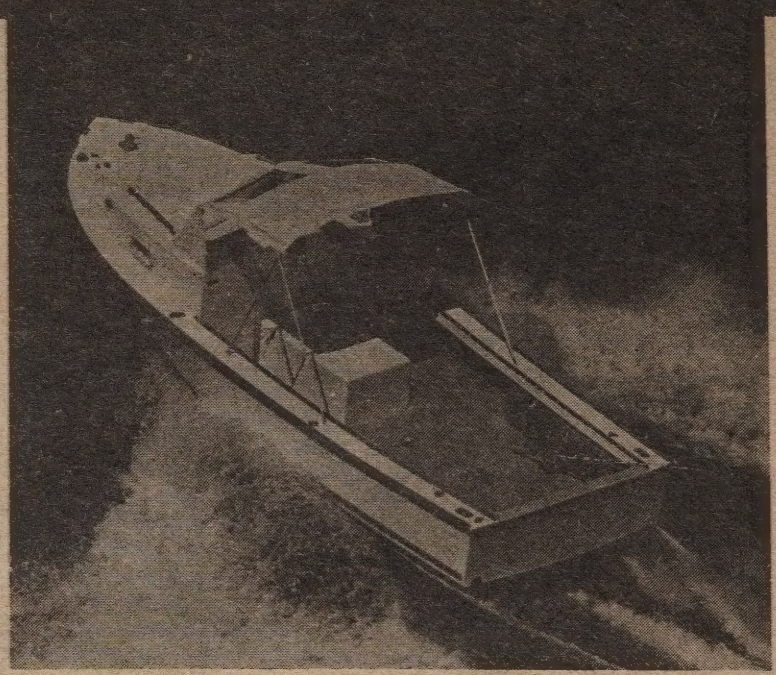
She's simple and easy to maintain, no frills—with lots of room in the 12′ x 6′6″ cockpit for family, friends or fishermen. Kids can't hurt it, and if it gets muddy or sandy just hose down the self-bailing cockpit. The forward cabin can be outfitted with bunks and a head, or used for storage.

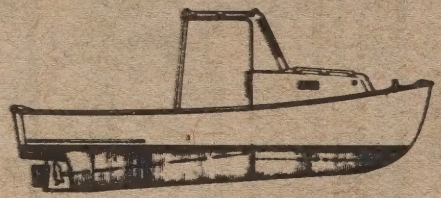
You can select any type of power you want—outboard, I/O, inboard gas or diesel. You can pick your own hull color and all kinds of equipment options to make your fiberglass Sisu fit your exact needs and budget. And we invite you to watch her being built.



Owning a boat doesn't have to be complicated and expensive. Owning a Sisu 22 isn't. For more details just write Sisu Boat, Inc., Dover Industrial Park, Dover, N.H. 03820. Or call (603) 749-4452.

See Ken Turco, SISU's L.I. Sales Rep. & the Sisu Boats at the Norwalk In-Water Boat Show, Sept. 20-23, "B" Dock, Slips 2 & 4 & Land Space 205





SISU BOAT, INC.

LOA 21′9″ Beam 7′10″
Draft (OB&I/O) 1′9″ Draft (Inboard) 2′2″